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THE
PERCY ANECDOTES.

COLLECTED AND EDITED BY

REUBEN AND SHOLTO PERCY.

A VERBATIM REPRINT OF THE ORIGINAL EDITION.

With a Preface

By JOHN TIMBS, F.S.A.



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THE PERCY ANECDOTES.

ANECDOTES OF JUSTICE.

Draco.

THE severity of the laws of Draco is proverbial; he punished almost all sorts of faults with death; and was hence said by Demades 'to have written his laws, not with ink, but with blood.' To steal an apple was with him a crime of as deep a dye, as to commit sacrilege; even 'confirmed idleness' was punished with death. On Draco himself being once asked, 'Why he punished such petty crimes with death?' he made this severe answer: 'That the smallest of them did deserve that, and that there was not a greater punishment he could find out for greater crimes.'

Aristides.

A tragedy by Eschylus was once represented before the Athenians, in which it was said of one of the characters, 'that he cared not more to be just, than to *appear* so.' At these words all eyes were instantly turned upon Aristides, as the man, who, of all the Greeks, most merited that distinguished character. Ever after he received, by universal consent, the surname of *the Just*, a title, says Plutarch, truly royal, or rather truly divine. This remarkable distinction roused envy, and envy prevailed so far as to procure his banishment for ten years, upon the unjust suspicion, that his influence with the people was dangerous to their freedom. When the sentence was passed by his countrymen, Aristides himself was present in the midst of them, and a stranger who stood near and could not write, applied to him to write for him in his shell. 'What name?' asked the philosopher. 'Aristides,' replied the stranger. 'Do you know him then?' said Aristides, 'or has he in any way injured you?' 'Neither,' said the other, 'but it is for this very thing I would he were condemned. I can go nowhere but I hear of Aristides the Just.' Aristides inquired no further, but took the shell, and wrote his name in it as desired.

The absence of Aristides soon dissipated the apprehensions which his countrymen had so

idly imbibed. He was in a short time recalled, and for many years after took a leading part in the affairs of the republic, without showing the least resentment against his enemies, or seeking any other gratification than that of serving his country with fidelity and honour. His disregard for money was strikingly manifested at his death; for though he was frequently treasurer as well as general, he scarcely left sufficient to defray the expenses of his burial.

The virtues of Aristides did not pass without reward. He had two daughters, who were educated at the expense of the state, and to whom portions were allotted from the public treasury.

Aristides being judge between two private persons, one of them declared that his adversary had greatly injured Aristides. 'Relate rather, good friend,' said he, interrupting him, 'what wrong he hath done thee, for it is thy cause, not mine, that I now sit judge of.'

Being desired by Simonides, the poet, who had a cause to try before him, to stretch a point in his favour, he replied, 'As you would not be a good poet, if your lines ran contrary to the just measures and rules of your art: so neither should I be a good judge or an honest man, if I decided aught in opposition to law and justice.'

Solon.

Anacharsis was wont to deride the endeavours of Solon, whose code of law superseded the bloody one of Draco, to repress the evil passions of his fellow-citizens with a few words, which, said he, 'are no better than spiders' webs, which the strong will break through at pleasure.'

'So like a fly the poor offender dies,
But like the wasp, the rich escapes and flies.'

DENHAM.

The reply of Solon was worthy of the law-giver of a refined people. 'Men,' said he,

'will be sure to stand to those covenants, which will bring evident disadvantages to the infringers of them. I have so framed and tempered the laws of Athens, that it shall manifestly appear to all, that it is more for their interest strictly to observe, than in anything to violate and infringe them.'

Socrates.

While Athens was governed by the thirty tyrants, Socrates, the philosopher, was summoned to the Senate House, and ordered to go with some other persons, whom they named, to seize one Leon, a man of rank and fortune, whom they determined to put out of the way, that they might enjoy his estate. This commission Socrates positively refused. 'I will not willingly,' said he, 'assist in an unjust act.' Charicles sharply replied, 'Dost thou think, Socrates, to talk in this high tone and not to suffer?' 'Far from it,' replied he, 'I expect to suffer a thousand ills, but none so great as to do unjustly.'

Ties of Kindred.

Phocion, the Athenian general, never suffered domestic or private views to interfere with the public interest. He constantly refused to solicit any favour even for those most nearly allied to him. His son-in-law, Charicles, being summoned before the republic on a suspicion of having embezzled the public money, Phocion addressed him in these admirable terms: 'I have made you my son-in-law, but only for what is just and honourable.'

Mysias, the brother of Antigonus, King of Macedon, solicited him to hear a cause, in which he was a party, in his chamber. 'No, my dear brother,' answered Antigonus, 'I will hear it in the open court of justice; because I must do justice.'

Diocles.

Among the laws which Diocles gave to the Syracusans, there was one which enacted, 'that no man should presume to enter, armed, into an assembly of the people; in case any should, he was to suffer death.' One day an alarm was given of an enemy approaching, and Diocles hastened out to meet them, with his sword by his side. On the way he was informed that the people, indifferent to their common danger, had assembled to talk sedition in the forum; and, forgetting all inferior circumstances in his zeal for the public safety, he stepped, armed as he was, into the midst of the assembly, intending to use his best endeavours to recall them to a sense of their duty; but before he could address them, one of the busiest of the factious called out, 'that Diocles, in arms among the people, had broken the laws which he had himself made.' Diocles, struck but not confounded, turning towards his accuser, replied, with a loud voice, 'Most

true; nor shall Diocles be the last to sanction his own laws.' On saying this, he drew his sword, and falling on it, expired.

A fate precisely similar is recorded of Charondas, the law-giver of the Thurians.

Brutus.

When the disgrace of Lucretia, daughter of Brutus, by the eldest son of Tarquinius Superbus, was known in Rome, the people determined to shake off the tyranny by which they were oppressed, and drive the proud and cruel monarch from the throne of which he had proved himself so unworthy. Brutus, as Captain of the Guards, called an assembly, in which he expatiated on the loss of their liberty, and the cruelties they suffered by the usurpation and oppressive government of Tarquin. The whole assembly applauded the speech, and immediately sentenced Tarquin, his wife and family, to perpetual banishment. A new form of government was proposed; and after some difficulties it was unanimously agreed to create in the room of the king, two consuls, whose authority should be annual. The right of election was left to the people, and immediately they chose Brutus and Collatinus consuls, who swore for themselves, their children, and posterity, never to recall either Tarquin or his sons, or any of his family, and that those who should attempt to restore monarchy, should be devoted to the infernal gods, and immediately put to death.

Before the end of the year, a conspiracy was formed, in which many of the young nobility were concerned, and among the rest the two sons of Brutus the consul. Their object was to restore the Tarquins; and they were so infatuated by a supernatural blindness, says Dionysius, as to write under their own hands, letters to the tyrant, informing him of the number of conspirators, and the time appointed for despatching the consuls.

A slave of the name of Vindicius became acquainted with their designs, and gave information to the consuls, who immediately went with a strong guard, and apprehended the conspirators and seized the letters.

As soon as it was day, Brutus ascended the tribunal. The prisoners were brought before him, and tried in form. The evidence of Vindicius was heard, and the letters to Tarquin read; after which the conspirators were asked if they had anything to urge in their defence. Sighs, groans, and tears, were their only answer. The whole assembly stood with downcast looks, and no man ventured to speak. This mournful silence was at last broken with slow murmurs of *Banishment! Banishment!* But the public good which predominated over the feelings of a parent, urged Brutus to pronounce on them the sentence of death.

Never was an event more capable of creating at the same time feelings of grief and horror. Brutus, father and judge of the two offenders, was obliged by his office to see his own sons executed. A great number of the

most noble youths suffered death at the same time, but the rest were as little regarded as if they had been persons unknown. The consul's sons alone attracted all eyes; and while the criminals were executing, the whole assembly fixed their attention on the father, examining his behaviour and looks, which in spite of his sad firmness, discovered the sentiments of nature, which he could not entirely stifle, although he sacrificed them to the duties of his office.

A Modern Brutus.

In the year 1526, James Lynch Fitzstephen, a merchant, who was at that time Mayor of Galway in Ireland, sent his only son as commander of one his ships to Bilboa, in Spain, for a cargo of wine. The credit which he possessed was taken advantage of by his son, who secreted the money with which he was entrusted for the purchase of the cargo; and the Spaniard who supplied him on this occasion, sent his nephew with him to Ireland to receive the debt and establish a farther correspondence. The young men, who were nearly of the same age, sailed together with that apparent confidence and satisfaction which congenial pursuits generally create among mankind. The ship proceeded on her voyage, and as every day brought them nearer the place of destination, and the discovery of the fraud of young Fitzstephen, he conceived the diabolical resolution of murdering his friend; a project in which, by promises of reward and fear, he brought the greatest part of the ship's crew to join. On the night of the fifth day, the unfortunate Spaniard was violently seized in his bed and thrown overboard. A few days more brought the ship to port. The father and friends of young Fitzstephen received him with joy, and in a short time bestowed a sufficient capital to enable him to commence business.

Security had now lulled every sense of danger, he sought the hand of a beautiful girl, the daughter of one of his neighbours. His proposals were accepted, and the day appointed which was to crown his yet successful villany, when one of the sailors who had been with him on the voyage to Spain was taken ill, and finding himself on the point of death, sent for the father, and communicated a full account of the horrid deed his son had committed. The father, though struck speechless with astonishment and horror, at length shook off the feelings of the parent, and exclaimed, 'Justice shall take its course.' He immediately caused his son to be seized with the rest of the crew, and thrown into prison. They all confessed their crime—a criminal prosecution was commenced, and in a few days, a small town in the West of Ireland beheld a sight scarcely paralleled in the history of mankind; a father, like another Brutus, sitting in judgment on his son! and like him too, condemning him to die as a sacrifice to public justice!—A father consigning his only son to an ignominious death, and tearing

away all the bonds of paternal affection, where the laws of nature were violated, and justice demanded the blow!—A father with his own lips pronouncing that sentence which left him childless, and at once blasted for ever the honour of an ancient and noble family! 'Were any other but your wretched father your judge,' said the virtuous magistrate, 'I might have dropped a tear over my child's misfortunes, and solicited his life though stained with murder; but you must die. These are the last drops which shall quench the spark of nature; and if you dare hope, implore that heaven may not shut the gates of mercy on the destroyer of his fellow creature.' Amazement sat on the countenance of everyone. The fellow citizens of the inflexible magistrate, who revered his virtues and pitied his misfortunes, saw with astonishment the fortitude with which he yielded to the cruel necessity, and heard him doom his son to a public and ignominious death.

The relatives of the unhappy culprit surrounded the father: they conjured him by all the ties of affection, of nature, and of compassion, to spare his son. His wretched mother flew in distraction to the heads of her own family, and conjured them for the honour of their house, to rescue her from the ignominy the death of her son must bring upon their name. The citizens felt compassion for the father; affection for the man; every nobler feeling was roused, and they privately determined to rescue the young man from prison during the night, under the conviction that Fitzstephen having already paid the tribute due to justice and to his honour, would rejoice at the preservation of the life of his son. But they little knew the heart of this noble magistrate. By some accident their determination reached his ear; he instantly removed his son from the prison to his own house, which he surrounded with the officers of justice.

In the morning he partook with his son the office of the holy communion; after giving and receiving a mutual forgiveness, the father said, 'You have little time to live, my son, let the care of your soul employ the few moments; take the last embrace of your unhappy father.'

The son was then hung at the door of his father; a dreadful monument of the vengeance of heaven, and an instance of the exercise of justice, that leaves everything of the kind in modern times at an immeasurable distance.

The father immediately resigned his office; and after his death, which speedily followed that of his son, the citizens fixed over the door of the house a death's head and cross bones, carved in black marble, to perpetuate the remembrance of this signal act of justice.

Just Reward of Treachery.

Tarpeia, the daughter of Tarpeius, the keeper of the Roman capitol, agreed to betray it into the hands of the Sabines, on this

condition, 'that she should have for her reward, that which they carried upon their left arms,' meaning the golden bracelets they wore upon them. The Sabines having been let in by Tarpeia, according to compact, Titius, their king, though well pleased with carrying the place, yet detesting the manner in which it was done, commanded the Sabines to give the fair traitor her promised reward, by throwing to her all they wore on their left arms; and therewith unclasping his bracelet from his left arm, he cast that, together with his shield, upon her. All the Sabines following the example of their chief, the traitress was speedily overwhelmed with the number of bracelets and bucklers heaped upon her, and thus perished miserably under the weight of the reward which she had earned by the double treachery to her father and to her country.

Fabius.

An exchange of captives was agreed on between Fabius and Hannibal, and he that had the fewer in number, was to pay a piece in money, as the ransom of the remainder. Fabius informed the senate of this compact, and that on counting numbers it was found that the Roman captives exceeded by two hundred and forty the Carthaginian. The senate, however, refused to ratify the agreement, and withal reproached Fabius for doing so little honour to the Roman name, as to agree to free men whose cowardice had made them the slaves of their enemies. Fabius received the rebuke with calmness, convinced at the same time in his own mind, that however just it might be, there was something still more just in being faithful to an engagement, deliberately made by a public officer, on the public behalf. His private purse was not at the moment affluent enough to discharge the stipulated ransom, but rather than deceive Hannibal, he sent his son to Rome, with instructions to sell all his lands, and to return with the money to the camp. Young Fabius did so; the ransom of the Roman prisoners was paid; and the patriot general, by thus sacrificing his fortune to his honour, gave his character one more claim to that immortality which numberless great and good acts have conferred upon it.

Portius Cato.

M. Portius Cato raised himself many enemies by his stern and inflexible integrity, his honesty in doing right to the injured, and his severity in punishing offenders. He spared no man, nor was a friend to any one who was not so to the commonwealth. More than fifty accusations were successively brought against him; yet, by the common suffrage of the people, he was always declared innocent, and that not by the power of his riches or the interest of his friends, but by the justness of his cause. Cato was also as wise as he was just; for, being accused again in his old age,

he requested that Tiberius Sempronius Gracchus, one of his chief enemies, might alone sit in judgment upon him. This was granted, the cause of complaint examined into, and Gracchus pronounced him innocent. From a result so corresponding to the noble confidence shewn by Cato, he lived ever after in equal glory and security.

A Tried Man.

The boast of Portius Cato, that he had been fifty-one times tried and acquitted, though extraordinary enough, was greatly exceeded by that of the Athenian Aristophon, who prided himself in having been ninety five times cited and accused before the public tribunals, and in every instance pronounced innocent.

Bold Monitor.

Augustus Cæsar was once sitting in judgment when Mecænas was present, who, perceiving that the emperor was about to pass sentence of death on a number of persons, endeavoured to get up to him; but, being hindered by the crowd, he wrote on a piece of paper, '*Tandem aliquando surge, carnifex?*' 'When are you going to rise, hangman?' and then threw the note into Cæsar's lap. Cæsar immediately rose without condemning any person to death; and far from taking the sarcastic admonition of Mecænas amiss, he felt much troubled that he had given cause for it.

The Emperor Trajan.

The emperor Trajan would never suffer any one to be condemned upon suspicion, however strong and well grounded; saying it was better a thousand criminals should escape unpunished, than one innocent person be condemned. When he appointed Subarranus Captain of his Guards, and presented him according to custom with a drawn sword, the badge of his office, he used these memorable words: '*Pro me, si merear, in me!*' 'Employ this sword for me, but if I deserve it, turn it against me.'

Trajan would not allow his freedmen any share in the administration. Notwithstanding this, some persons having a suit with one of them of the name of Eurythmus, seemed to fear the influence of the Imperial freedom: but Trajan assured them that the cause should be heard, discussed, and decided, according to the strictest laws of justice; adding, 'For neither is he Polycletus, nor I Nero.' Polycletus, it will be recollected, was the freedman of Nero, and as infamous as his master for rapine and injustice.

As Trajan was once setting out from Rome, at the head of a numerous army, glittering in all the pomp and circumstance of martial equipment, to make war in Wallachia, and when a vast concourse of people were gathered around to witness the proud spectacle, he was suddenly accosted by a woman,

who called out in a pathetic but bold tone, 'To Trajan I appeal for justice!' Although the emperor was pressed by the affairs of a most urgent war, he instantly stopped, and alighting from his horse, heard the suppliant state the cause of her complaint. She was a poor widow, and had been left with an only son, who had been foully murdered; she had sued for justice on his murderers, but had been unable to obtain it. Trajan, having satisfied himself of the truth of her statements, decreed her on the spot the satisfaction which she demanded, and sent the mourner away comforted. So much was this action admired, that it was afterwards represented on the pillar erected to Trajan's memory, as one of the most resplendent instances of his goodness.

Honourable Enemy.

Cneius Domitius, tribune of the Roman people, eager to ruin his enemy, Marcus Scaurus, chief of the Senate, accused him publicly of several high crimes and misdemeanours. His zeal in the prosecution tempted a slave of Scaurus, through hope of a reward, to offer himself privately as a witness. But justice here prevailed over revenge; for Domitius, without uttering a single word, ordered the perfidious wretch to be fettered and carried instantly to his master. So universally was this action admired, that it procured Domitius an accession of honours which he could scarcely have hoped for otherwise. He was successively elected consul, censor, and high priest.

Noble Revenge.

Some soldiers of Gabinius wantonly put to death two sons of M. Bibulus, a person of distinction in the province of Syria. The afflicted father having appealed to Queen Cleopatra for justice on the murderers, she ordered them to be seized and sent to him, to be dealt with as he might see fit. Bibulus did as wisely as generously. He felt that, in private hands, punishment must have degenerated into revenge, and he was of the few who think that to repeat, is not the most rational way to show abhorrence of a deed of brutality. He commanded the culprits to be returned to the queen, thinking it revenge enough to have had the enemies of his blood in his power.

Perfidy Punished.

Brutus, the general, having conquered the Patavenses, ordered them on pain of death to bring him all their gold and silver, and promised rewards to such as should discover any hidden treasures. Upon this a slave belonging to a rich citizen, informed against his master, and discovered to a Centurion the place where he had buried his wealth. The citizen was immediately seized, and brought, together with the treacherous informer, before

Brutus. The mother of the accused followed them, declaring, with tears in her eyes, that she had hidden the treasure without her son's knowledge, and that consequently she alone ought to be punished. The slave maintained that his master, and not the mother, had transgressed the edict. Brutus heard both parties with great patience, and being convinced that the accusation of the slave was chiefly founded on the hatred he bore to his master, he commended the tenderness and generosity of the mother, restored the whole sum to the son, and ordered the slave to be crucified. This judgment, which was immediately published all over Lycia, gained him the hearts of the inhabitants, who came in flocks to him from all quarters, offering of their own accord the money they possessed.

Perfidy Rewarded.

What a noble contrast does the conduct of Brutus form, to the base cruelty which disgraced the reign of James II. on an occasion not very dissimilar. During Monmouth's rebellion, one of his followers, knowing the humane disposition of a lady of the name of Mrs. Gaunt, whose life was one continued exercise of beneficence, fled to her house, where he was concealed and maintained for some time. Hearing, however of the proclamation which promised an indemnity and reward to those who discovered such as harboured the rebels, he betrayed his benefactress; and such was the spirit of justice and equity which prevailed among the ministers, that the ungrateful wretch was pardoned, and recompensed for his treachery, while his benefactress was burnt alive for her charity towards him.

Singular Detections.

The temple of Juno at Sparta was once robbed, and an empty flagon found, which had been left by the robbers. Much conjecture arose among the crowds who resorted to the temple, on the circumstance being known, when one man affecting to be wiser than the rest, said, his opinion, respecting the flagon, was, that the robbers had first drank the juice of hemlock before they entered the Temple, and had brought wine with them in the flagon, to drink in case they escaped being caught in the fact, wine being known to counteract the effect of the poison; but that should they be taken and suffer the hemlock to operate, they might die an easy death, rather than suffer the execution of the law. The company on hearing this, shrewdly inferred, that such an ingenious device could not come from one that barely suspected the matter, but from actual knowledge of the circumstance. Upon this they crowded about him, and inquired who he was? whence he came? who knew him? and how he had come to the knowledge he had stated? His answers were equivocal, and being closely

pressed, he at last confessed that he was one of the men that had committed the sacrilege.

At Delft, a servant girl was accused of being accessory to the robbery of her master's house, on a Sunday, when the family were gone to church. She was condemned on circumstantial evidence, and suffered the severe punishment, allotted by the laws of Holland to servants who rob their masters. Her conduct whilst confined, was so exemplary, and her conduct had stood so fair previous to the imputed offence, that her master not only interceded to shorten her imprisonment, but received her again into his service.

Some time had elapsed after her release, when a circumstance occurred, which led to the detection of the real criminal, and consequently to the complete vindication of her innocence.

It happened as she was passing through the butchers' market at Delft, that one of them, tapping her on the shoulder, whispered in her ear some words of very remarkable import. She instantly recollected having used these very words on the fatal Sunday of the robbery, for which she had suffered, while she was surveying herself in a glass in her dressing room, and when, as she supposed, no one was near. With a palpitating heart she hastened to her master, and told him what had occurred. He was a magistrate, and immediately instituted an inquiry into the circumstances of the suspected person, from which it appeared that he had suddenly got up in the world subsequent to the robbery, nobody could tell how. This circumstance was deemed sufficient to justify a search being made, and the measures of the police were so arranged, that it was made at one and the same time in his own house, and that of his nearest kindred. The result was, that various articles which had been stolen from the magistrate's house, at the time the maid servant had been accused, were found and taken away.

It seems that the robber had concealed himself in the turf-solder, or garret where the turf was stowed away, adjoining which was the servant's chamber; and whilst the poor girl was dressing, the villain overheard the words which led to his detection, effected the robbery, and got off unperceived.

He was broken alive upon the rack, and the city gave a handsome portion to the sufferer, by way of compensation for the wrongs she had suffered.

Philip of Macedon.

Philip of Macedon, rising from an entertainment at which he had sat some hours, was addressed by a woman who begged him to hear her cause. He complied with her request immediately, but upon her saying some things that were not very agreeable to him, he gave sentence against her. The woman promptly but calmly replied, 'Then I appeal,' 'How,'

said Philip, 'from your king? to whom then?' 'To Philip when fasting,' said the woman. The manner in which he received this answer was worthy of a great prince. He afterwards gave the cause a second hearing, found the injustice of his sentence, and condemned himself to make it good.

The same monarch being urged to use his influence with the judges in behalf of a person whose reputation would be quite lost by the sentence which was going to be pronounced against him, said, 'I had rather that the man should lose his reputation by an act of justice than that I should forfeit mine by violating it.'

Artaxerxes.

One of the officers of Artaxerxes, King of Persia, of the name of Artibarzanes, solicited his majesty to confer a favour upon him, which, if complied with, would be an act of injustice. The king, learning that the promise of a considerable sum of money was the only motive that induced the officer to make such an unreasonable request, ordered his treasurer to give him thirty thousand dariuses, being a present of equal value with that which he was to have received. 'Here,' says the king, giving him an order for the money, 'take this token of my friendship for you; a gift of this nature cannot make me poor, but complying with your request would render me poor indeed, since it would make me unjust.'

To be Just in Trifles.

Nouschirvan, King of Persia, being hunting one day, became desirous of eating some of the venison in the field. Some of his attendants went to a neighbouring village, and took away a quantity of salt to season it, but the king, suspecting how they had acted, ordered that they should immediately go and pay for it. Then, turning to his attendants, he said, 'This is a small matter in itself, but a great one as it regards me: 'or a king ought ever to be just, because he is an example to his subjects; and if he swerves in trifles, they will become dissolute. If I cannot make all my people just in the smallest things, I can at least show them that it is possible to be so.'

Memorable Example.

Cambyses, King of Persia, was remarkable for the severity of his government, and his inexorable regard to justice. The prince had a favourite of the name of Sisamnes, whom he made a judge, but who presumed so far on the credit he had with his master, that justice was sold in the courts of judicature as openly as provisions in the market. When Cambyses was informed of these proceedings, enraged to find his friendship so ungratefully abused, the honour of his government prostituted, and the liberty and property of his subjects sacrificed to the avarice of this wretched minion,

he ordered him to be seized and publicly degraded, after which he commanded his skin to be stripped over his ears, and the seat of judgment to be covered with it, as a warning to others. At the same time, to convince the world that this severity proceeded only from the love of justice, he permitted the son to succeed his father in the honours and office of prime minister, cautioning him that the same partiality and injustice should meet with a similar punishment. It is remarked of his successor, that he was one of the most upright judges that ever existed, but on many occasions he was observed to wriggle very much in his seat.

Delay of Judgment.

Juvenalis, a widow, complained to Theodoric, King of the Romans, that a suit of hers had been in court three years, which might have been decided in a few days. The king, being informed who were her judges, gave orders that they should give all expedition to the poor woman's cause, and in two days it was decided to her satisfaction. Theodoric then summoned the judges before him, and inquired how it was that they had done in two days what they had delayed for three years? 'The recommendation of your majesty,' was the reply. 'How,' said the King, 'when I put you in office, did I not consign all pleas and proceedings to you? You deserve death for having delayed that justice for three years, which two days could accomplish;' and, at that instant, he commanded their heads to be struck off.

A Sovereign's Duty.

The haughty Solyman, Emperor of the Turks, in his attack on Hungary, took the city of Belgrade, which was considered as the bulwark of Christendom. After this important conquest, a woman of low rank approached him, and complained bitterly that some of his soldiers had carried off her cattle, in which consisted her sole wealth. 'You must then have been in a deep sleep,' said Solyman, smiling. 'if you did not hear the robbers.' 'Yes, my sovereign,' replied the woman. 'I did sleep soundly, but it was in the fullest confidence that your highness watched for the public safety.'

The emperor, who had an elevated mind, far from resenting this freedom, made the poor woman ample amends for the loss she had sustained.

Prompt and Signal Redress.

The Emperor Camki, of China, being out hunting, and having strayed from his attendants, met with a poor old man, who wept bitterly, and appeared much afflicted for some extraordinary disaster. He rode up to him, and inquired the cause of his distress. 'Alas! sir,' replied the old man, 'though I should

tell you the cause of my distress, it is not in your power to remedy it.' 'Perhaps, my good man, I may serve you,' replied the emperor, upon which the man told him that all his sufferings were owing to a governor of one of the emperor's pleasure houses, who had seized upon a small estate of his near the royal house, and had reduced him to beggary. Not contented with this inhuman treatment, he had forced his son to become his slave, and thus robbed him of the only support of his old age.

The emperor was so affected with this speech, and so fully resolved to punish a crime committed under the sanction of his authority, that he determined on immediately accompanying the old man to the governor; but not knowing to whom he spoke, the old man remonstrated on the danger of such a mission; and being unable to dissuade him from it, pleaded his inability to keep pace with the emperor, who was mounted. 'I am young,' answered the emperor, 'do you get on horseback, and I will go on foot.' The old man not accepting the offer, the emperor took him up behind him, notwithstanding his ragged and filthy appearance, and they soon arrived at the house. The emperor asked for the governor, who, appearing, was greatly surprised, when the prince in accosting him, discovered to him the embroidered dragon, which he wore on his breast, and which his hunting dress had concealed. It happened, as if to render more famous this memorable act of justice and humanity, that most of the nobles, who had followed the emperor in the chase, came up at the time; and before this grand assembly, he reproached the old man's persecutor with his signal injustice; and after obliging him to restore to him his estate and his son, he ordered his head to be instantly cut off. He did more; he put the old man in his place, admonishing him to take care, lest fortune changing his manners, another might avail himself hereafter of his injustice, as he had now of the injustice of the governor.

The Emperor Julian.

When Numerius, governor of the Narbonnoise Gaul, was impeached of plundering his province, he denied the charge and baffled his accusers: on which a famous lawyer cried out to the emperor, 'Cæsar, who will ever be found guilty, if it is sufficient for a man to deny the charge?' To which Julian answered, 'But who will appear innocent, if a bare accusation is sufficient?'

Saladin.

Saladin, the Sultan of Egypt, though he had dominions enough of his own, was always ready when occasion offered to make free with those belonging to others. At his return from the siege of Mousul in Syria, without success, he seized the whole lordship of Emessa, in prejudice to the right of Nasir Eddin, the young prince who claimed it.

This he did upon pretence that the father of the youth had forfeited it, by giving countenance to confederacies against the sultan's interest. Saladin, however, ordered that proper care should be taken of the injured prince's education; and being desirous to observe what progress he made in his studies, he one day ordered him to be brought before him, and asked him, with much gravity, in what part of the Alcoran he was reading? 'I am come,' replied the young prince, to the surprise of all who were near him, 'to that verse which informs me, that he who devours the estates of orphans is not a king, but a tyrant.' The sultan was much startled at the turn and spirit of this repartee; but after some pause and recollection, returned the youth this generous answer: 'He who speaks with such resolution, would act with so much courage, that I restore you to your father's possessions, lest I should be thought to stand in fear of a virtue which I only reverence.'

Caliph Reclaimed.

Hakkam, the son and successor of Abdou-brahman III., wanting to enlarge his palace, proposed to purchase from a poor woman a piece of ground that lay contiguous to it; and when she could not be prevailed on to part with the inheritance of her ancestors, Hakkam's officers took by force what they could not otherwise obtain. The poor woman applied to Ibn-Bechir, the chief magistrate of Corduba, for justice. The case was delicate and dangerous, and Bechir concluded that the ordinary methods of proceeding would be ineffectual, if not fatal. He mounted his ass, and taking a large sack with him, rode to the palace of the caliph. The prince happened to be sitting in a pavilion that had been erected in the poor woman's garden. Bechir, with his sack in his hand, advanced towards him, and after prostrating himself, desired the caliph would permit him to fill his sack with earth in that garden. Hakkam showed some surprise at his appearance and request, but allowed him to fill his sack. When this was done, the magistrate entreated the prince to assist him in laying the burden on his ass. This extraordinary request surprised Hakkam still more; but he only told the judge it was too heavy; he could not bear it. 'Yet this sack,' replied Bechir, with a noble assurance, 'this sack, which you think too heavy to bear, contains but a small portion of that ground which you took by violence from the right owner. How then will you be able at the day of judgment to support the weight of the whole!' The remonstrance was effectual; and Hakkam without delay restored the ground, with the buildings upon it, to the former proprietor.

Turkish Cadis.

Bajazet the First was so incensed at the complaints constantly made to him of the corrupt conduct of his cadis in the administration

of justice, that he came to the extraordinary resolution of assembling the whole of them together, and then causing the house in which they were to be set on fire, that they might all be consumed at once, and a lesson be thus given to their successors, on the beauty of being just, which they would not easily forget. Having given a hint of his intention to Hally Bassa, one of his counsellors, a man of much prudence and moderation, the latter sought and found out a way to appease him. Bajazet had an Ethiopian boy, whom he took great delight in, and allowed to say whatever he pleased. Hally Bassa, having instructed the boy what he should say, sent him in to the emperor, in a habit more gay than was usual with him. 'What is the matter,' said Bajazet, 'that thou art thus gallant to-day?' 'I am,' said the boy, 'going from thee to the Emperor of Constantinople.' 'To him, that is our enemy?' replied the prince. 'What wilt thou do there?' 'I am going,' said he, 'to invite some old monks and devotees to do justice amongst us, since you are resolved to have all our cadis slain.' 'But my little Ethiop,' said Bajazet, 'what do they know of our laws?' On this Hally Bassa, who was standing by, reasonably observed, 'They know nothing, my lord; is it not worth while, therefore, to pause before you cut off those that do?' 'Why then,' asked the emperor, 'do they judge unjustly and corruptly?' 'I will discover to my lord the cause of it,' said Hally; 'our cadis have no stipend allowed them out of the public treasury; they therefore indemnify themselves out of the purses of the suitors before them; place them above this temptation, and you will have effected the reform you wish.' Bajazet was pleased with the counsel, and commissioned Hally to fix such salaries as he should think fit. Hally, accordingly ordered, and it afterwards remained the law, 'that every person who had an inheritance of so many thousand aspers, should, out of every thousand, allow twenty to the cadi of his district; and that for all instruments of marriage and similar contracts he should have twenty more.' 'And so,' says Knowles, 'their poverty was relieved, and justice duly administered.'

A Bribe well Weighed.

A poor man in Turkey claimed a house which a rich neighbour had usurped; he held his deeds and documents to prove his right, but his more powerful opponent had provided a number of witnesses to invalidate them; and to support their evidence more effectually, he presented the cadi with a bag containing five hundred ducats.

When the cause came to be heard, the poor man told his story, and produced his writings, but wanted that most essential and only valid proof, witnesses. The other, provided with witnesses, laid his whole stress on them, and on his adversary's defect in law, who could produce none; he therefore urged the cadi to give sentence in his favour.

After the most pressing solicitations, the judge calmly drew from under his seat the bag of five hundred ducats, which the rich man had given him as a bribe ; saying to him very gravely, 'You have been much mistaken in this suit ; for if the poor man could bring no witnesses in confirmation of his right, I myself can produce at least five hundred.' He then threw him the bag with reproach and indignation, and decreed the house to the poor plaintiff.

A Fair Condition.

A ship freighted at Alexandria by some Turks, to bring them and their merchandize to Constantinople, met with a violent storm in the passage. The master told those freighters who were on board, that he could not save the ship, nor their lives, but by throwing overboard all the goods on the deck. They consented to the sacrifice, as well for themselves as for other freighters at Constantinople ; but when the ship arrived there, they united to prosecute the master for the value of the goods. The Moulah of Galata, before whom he was summoned, had the case fully represented to him, and his deputy, as usual, had the promise of a reward.

When the parties appeared, and the witnesses were examined, the Moulah reflected some time, took down his book, and gravely opening it, told them that the book declared, that the master should pay the true value of those very goods ; that is, what the freighters could prove by witnesses any one would give for them, or what they were really worth, on board the ship, at the very moment the master was constrained to throw them into the sea, as the only means by which he could save the lives of his passengers, amongst whom were the persons who now sued him.

The freighters ran out of court to seek witnesses, but the judge, who knew none could be procured, without farther hesitation gave his written decree in favour of the master.

Conflict of Affection and Duty.

A greaser of the city of Smyrna had a son who with the help of the little learning the country could afford, rose to the post of Naib, or deputy of the Cadi ; and as such visited the markets, and inspected the weights and measures of all retail dealers. One day as this officer was going his rounds, the neighbours who knew enough of his father's character to suspect that he might stand in need of the caution, advised him to remove his weights ; but the old cheat trusting to his relationship to the inspector, laughed at their advice. The Naib, on coming to his shop, coolly said to him, 'Good man, fetch out your weights that we may examine them.' Instead of obeying, the greaser endeavored to evade the order with a laugh ; but was soon convinced that his son was serious, by his ordering the officers to search his shop. The instruments of his

fraud were soon discovered ; and after an impartial examination, openly condemned and broken to pieces. He was also sentenced to a fine of fifty piastres, and to receive a bastinado of as many blows on the soles of his feet.

After this had been effected on the spot, the Naib, leaping from his horse, threw himself at the feet of his father, and watering them with his tears, thus addressed him : 'Father, I have discharged my duty to my God, my sovereign, and my country, as well as to the station I hold ; permit me now, by my respect and submission, to acquit the debt I owe a parent. Justice is blind ; it is the power of God on earth ; it has no regard to the ties of kindred. God and our neighbours' rights are above the ties of nature ; you had offended against the laws of justice ; you deserved this punishment, but I am sorry it was your fate to receive it from me. My conscience would not suffer me to act otherwise. Behave better for the future ; and instead of censuring me, pity my being reduced to so cruel a necessity.'

So extraordinary an act of justice gained him the acclamations and praise of the whole city ; and a report of it being made to the Sublime Porte, the Sultan advanced the Naib to the post of Cadi, and he soon after rose to the dignity of Mufti.

Modern Turkish Practice.

The administration of justice has in more recent times become notoriously and avowedly corrupt in Turkey. The testimony of a Musliman of the most infamous character, is always preferred to that of the most respectable Christian ; and the slight disgrace imposed by the law on gross perjury, is seldom, if ever inflicted. In criminal cases, everything depends upon the mere caprice of the judge. The life of man, concerning which no deliberation can be too long, is hastily sentenced away, without reflection, according to the influence of passion, or the impulse of the moment. A complaint was preferred to the vizier against some soldiers who had insulted the gentlemen of the Russian embassy : the vizier made a horizontal motion with his hand, and before the conference was over, seven heads were rolled from a sack at the feet of Prince Repnin. A man, caught in the act of pilfering property during a fire, has been thrown into the flames by order of the vizier. A housebreaker detected in robbery, is hanged up, without process, at the door of the house he has robbed. Shopkeepers, or dealers, convicted of using false weights or measures, are fined, bastinadoed, or nailed by the ear to their own door-post. Punishment, too, is frequently inflicted on the innocent, while the guilty enjoy the fruits of criminality. A Swedish gentleman walking one day in the streets of Constantinople, saw the body of an Armenian hanging from the front of a baker's shop. He inquired of a bystander for what crime the poor wretch had suffered ? 'The

vizier,' said he, 'in passing by early in the morning, stopped and ordered the loaves to be weighed; and finding them short of weight, immediately ordered the execution of the person in the shop.' 'How severe a punishment for so slight a crime!' 'It was thought severe,' replied the Turk, 'for the Christian was but a servant, whose wages were twenty *faras*, a day, and whose master derived the whole benefit from the deficiency in the weight of the bread.' And yet other Armenians had already occupied the vacant place, and were serving the customers with the greatest indifference.

Common Law of England.

The appellation of *common law* originated with Edward the Confessor. The Saxons, though divided into many kingdoms, yet in their manners, laws, and languages, were similar. The slight differences which existed between the Mercian law, the West Saxon law, and the Danish law, were removed by Edward with great facility, and without any dissatisfaction; and he made his alteration rather famous by a new name, than by new matter; for, abolishing the three distinctions above mentioned, he called it the Common Law of England, and ordained that no part of the kingdom should be governed by any particular law, but all by one. The common law, as contradistinguished from the statute law, consists of those rules and maxims concerning the persons and property of men, that have obtained by the tacit assent and usage of the inhabitants of this country; the consent and approbation of the people being signified by their immemorial use and practice.

Escapes from the Gallows.

In Plott's 'History of Staffordshire,' we are told that in the reign of Henry III., one Judith de Balsham was condemned for receiving and concealing thieves, and hanged from nine o'clock on Monday morning, till sun-rise on Tuesday following, and yet escaped with life! In evidence of this most incredible story, Plott recites verbatim, a royal pardon granted to the woman, in which the fact is circumstantially recorded. '*Quia Inetta de Balsham pro receptamento Latronum ei imposito nuper, per considerationem Curie nostre suspendio adjudicata et ab hora nona diei Lune usque post ortum solis diei Martis sequen. suspensa, viva evasit sicut ex testimonio fide dignorum accepimus.*' What can be said against such testimony as this? Nothing perhaps but that the thing is impossible. The days of Henry III. were days of priestly imposture; and there have been grosser juggles in the annals of unholy craft, than hanging a woman for twenty-four hours without killing her!

In the account of Oxfordshire, by the same author, we find a remarkable notice of the woman Greene, who, after being hanged,

was recovered by Sir William Petty. [See *Anecdotes of Science*, p. 519.] The time of suspension, it may be necessary to observe, was not quite so long as that of Judith de Balsham; she hung only about half an hour. 'What was most remarkable,' says Plott, 'and distinguished the hand of Providence in her recovery, she was found to be innocent of the crime for which she suffered.'

Confinement in Irons.

When it was once urged to Lord Chief Justice King, that irons were absolutely necessary to safe custody, his lordship, who was of opinion with Bracton, that such a mode of confinement is as contrary to law as to humanity, replied, 'That they might build their walls higher.' The neglect of this legal precaution can certainly be no excuse for the infliction of an illegal punishment. The truth is, as Mr. Buxton justly observes, 'a man is very rarely ironed for his own misdeeds, but very frequently for those of others: additional irons on his person are cheaper than additional elevation to the walls. Thus we cover our own negligence by increased severity on captives.'

In 1782, Lord Loughborough imposed a fine of twenty pounds on the keeper of Norwich Castle, for putting irons on a woman. And yet we are told by Mr. Neild, that on a recent survey of the gaol at Brecon, there were, among other persons, half-starved and cruelly treated, *two women*, without shoes and stockings, *heavily loaded with double irons!!!*

Sufferer for Conscience' Sake.

Among the prosecutions for conscience' sake, which disgraced the reign of Henry the Fourth, none is more interesting than that of Mr. William Thorpe, a follower of Wickliffe, of which an account, written by himself, is preserved in Fox's 'Acts and Monuments.' It is not only interesting as an apparently authentic record of the proceedings, but as a specimen of the language and manners of the times. The trial took place before Arundel, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1407. In the pious exhortations of the Archbishop to this heretic, there is a mixture of argument, and scolding, and swearing, which is altogether very amusing. After a long conference, in which the archbishop seldom condescended to address him by any other appellation than that of 'Lewde Lossel,' he asked him definitively to submit to the ordinances of the church; but receiving only a conditional answer?—'Than the archebishop, striking with his honde ferseylye upon a cupborde, spake to me with a greate spyrite, saying, "But yf thou leave soche additions, obliging the now here without any excepcion to mine ordinance, or that I go out of this place, I shall make thee as sure as ony thefe that is in the pryson of Lantern. Advyse the now what thou wilt do."'

And in the same spirit of Christian meek-

ness, his grace concluded by telling Thorpe, 'By —— I shall settle upon thy shynes a pair of perlis, that thou shalt be gladd to change thy voice.'

Thorpe, resolute in his nonconformity, was committed to prison, and there is no record of what became of him, though it is probable that the worthy archbishop took the humane advice of the bystanders, some of whom mercifully advised his grace to burn him, and others to drown him in the sea.

Sir Thomas More.

When Sir Thomas More was lord chancellor in the reign of Henry VIII., he ordered a gentleman to pay a sum of money to a poor woman, whom he had wronged. The gentleman said, 'Then I hope your lordship will grant me a long day to pay it.' 'I will grant your motion,' said the chancellor: 'Monday next is St. Barnabas' Day, which is the longest day in the year; pay it to the widow that day, or I will commit you to the Fleet Prison.'

Inflexible Judges.

Louis XI. proposing to cajole his court of parliament of Paris, if it should refuse to publish certain new ordinances which he had made, and the masters of that court being informed of the king's intentions, went to him in their robes. The king inquired their business? 'Sir,' answered the President La Vacquery, 'we are come here, determined to lose our lives, every one of us, rather than by our connivance any unjust ordinances should take place.' The king, amazed at this answer of La Vacquery, and at the constancy of the parliament, gave them gracious entertainment, and commanded that the edicts which he intended to have published should be immediately cancelled in their presence; swearing that henceforth he never would make edicts that should not be just and equitable.

Morvilliers, keeper of the seals to Charles the Ninth of France, was one day ordered by his sovereign to put the seals to the pardon of a nobleman who had committed murder. He refused. The king then took the seals out of his hands, and having put them himself to the instrument of remission, returned them immediately to Morvilliers, who refused to take them again, saying, 'The seals have twice put me in a situation of great honour; once when I received them, and again when I returned them.'

Louis the Fourteenth had granted a pardon to a nobleman who had committed some very great crime. M. Voisin, the chancellor, ran to him in his closet, and exclaimed, 'Sire, you cannot pardon a person in the situation of ——.' 'I have promised him,' replied

the king, who was ever impatient of contradiction; 'go and fetch the great seal.' 'But, sire, ——' 'Pray, sir, do as I order you.' The chancellor returns with the seals; Louis applies them himself to the instrument, containing the pardon, and gives them again to the chancellor. 'They are polluted now, sire,' exclaims the intrepid and excellent magistrate, pushing them from him on the table, 'I cannot take them again.' 'What an impracticable man!' cries the monarch, and throws the pardon into the fire. 'I will now, sire, take them again,' said the chancellor; 'the fire, you know, purifies everything.'

Prince Henry and Chief Justice Gascoigne.

A favourite servant of King Henry V., when Prince of Wales, was indicted for a misdemeanor; and notwithstanding the interest he exerted in his behalf, was convicted and condemned. The prince was so incensed at the issue of the trial, that forgetting his own dignity and the respect due to the administration of justice, he rushed into court, and commanded that his servant should be unfettered and set at liberty. The Chief Justice, Sir William Gascoigne, mildly reminded the prince of the reverence which was due to the ancient laws of the kingdom; and advised him, if he had any hope of exempting the culprit from the rigour of his sentence, to apply for the gracious pardon of the king, his father, a course of proceeding which would be no derogation to either law or justice. The prince, far from being appeased by this discreet answer, hastily turned towards the prisoner, and was attempting to take him by force out of the hands of the officers, when the chief justice, roused by so flagrant a contempt of authority, commanded the prince on his allegiance instantly to leave the prisoner and quit the court. Henry, all in a fury, stepped up to the judgment seat, with the intention, as every one thought, of doing some personal injury to the chief justice; but he quickly stopped short, awed by the majestic sternness which frowned from the brow of the judge as he thus addressed him: 'Sir, remember yourself. I keep here the place of the king, your sovereign lord and father, to whom you owe double allegiance. In his name, therefore, I charge you to desist from your disobedience and unlawful enterprise, and henceforth give a better example to those who shall hereafter be your own subjects. And now, for the contempt and disobedience you have shown, I commit you to the prison of the King's Bench, there to remain until the pleasure of the king, your father, be known.'

Henry, by this time sensible of the insult he had offered the laws of his country, suffered himself to be quietly conducted to gaol by the officers of justice. His father, Henry IV., was no sooner informed of this transaction, than he exclaimed in a transport of joy,

'Happy is the king who has a magistrate possessed of courage to execute the laws; and still more happy in having a son who will submit to the punishment inflicted for offending them.'

The prince himself when he came to be king, speaking of Sir William Gascoigne, said, 'I shall ever hold him worthy of his place, and of my favour; and I wish that all my judges may possess the like undaunted courage to punish offenders, of what rank soever.'

Queen Mary.

Queen Mary, until her marriage with Philip the Second, appears to have been merciful and humane; for Hollinshed says, that when she appointed Sir Richard Morgan Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, she told him, 'that notwithstanding the *old error* which did not admit any witness to speak, or any other matter to be heard (her majesty being party), that her pleasure was, that whatsoever could be brought in favour of the subject, should be admitted to be heard; and moreover, that the justices should not persuade themselves to put in judgment, otherwise for her highness than for her subject.'

Archbishop Cranmer.

Persecution for religious opinions assumed the most terrific form in the reign of the sanguinary Mary. Among the proceedings of the furious Bonner, there is none more affecting than the trial of Archbishop Cranmer for treason and heresy. The following extract from the 'State Trials' exhibits a lively portrait of the degradation of Cranmer, and the exulting pride of his enemy:—

'Then they invested him (Cranmer) in all manner of robes of a bishop and archbishop, as he is at his installing, saving that as everything then is most rich and costly, so everything in this is of canvas and old clouts, with a mitre and a pall of the same suit, done upon him in mockery, and then the crosier staff was put in his hand.

'This done, after the Pope's pontifical form and manner, Bonner, who, by the space of many years, had borne, as it seemeth, no great good will towards him, and now rejoiced to see this day wherein he might triumph over him, and take his pleasure at full, began to stretch out his eloquence, making his oration to the assembly after this manner of sort.

'"This is the man that hath ever despised the Pope's holiness, and now is to be judged by him. This is the man who hath pulled down so many churches, and now is come to be judged in a church. This is the man that condemned the blessed sacrament of the altar, and now is come to be condemned before that blessed sacrament hanging over the altar. This is the man that, like Lucifer, sat in the place of Christ upon an altar to

judge others, and now is come before an altar to be judged himself."

The story of Cranmer's recantation signed by him, on a promise of life, which was afterwards violated, is known to all our readers. After he had signed it, Dr. Cole received secret orders from the court to preach in Cranmer's presence, in one of the churches of Oxford, an anticipation of his funeral sermon. On the day appointed, the archbishop was placed upon a stage in front of the pulpit in a ragged gown, with an old square cap, to hear the sermon, which was performed by Dr. Cole to admiration. After expatiating on the justice of his sentence, the preacher addressed the audience, and bade them take warning by the fate of so great a man; then directing himself personally to Cranmer, he lauded him for his conversion, and exhorted him to imitate the 'rejoicing' of St. Andrew on the cross, and the 'patience' of St. Laurence in the fire.

The account of Cranmer's shame and remorse during this edifying harangue, is very pathetic and striking. It is a powerful specimen of old English writing.

'Cranmer in all this meantime, with what grief of mind he stood hearing the sermon, the outward show of his body did better express than any man can declare; one while lifting up his hands and eyes unto heaven, and then again for shame letting them down to the earth. A man might have seen the very image and shape of perfect sorrow lively in him expressed. More than twenty several times the tears gushed out abundantly, dropping down his atherly face. They which were present do testify, that they never saw in any child more tears than burst out from him at that time, all the sermon while, but especially when they recited his prayers before the people. It is marvellous what commiseration and pity moved all men's hearts, that beheld so heavy a countenance and such abundance of tears in an old man, and of so reverend a dignity.'

Fit Punishment.

An officer of rank in the army of Louis the Twelfth, of France, having ill-treated a peasant, the monarch made him live for a few days upon wine and meat. The officer, tired of this very heating diet, requested permission to have some bread allowed him. The king sent for him, and said, 'How could you be so foolish as to ill-treat those persons who put bread into your mouth?'

Circumstantial Evidence.

1.—A gentleman having been revelling abroad, was returning home late at night; but overcome with wine, he fell down in the street, and lay there in a state of insensibility. Soon after, two persons, who were passing, having quarrelled, one of them observing that the drunkard had a sword by his side, snatched it away, and with it ran his adver-

slay through the body. Leaving the instrument sticking in his wound, he ran off as fast as he could. When the watchman of the night came in the course of his rounds to the scene of this tragedy, and saw one man lying dead, with a sword in his body, and another lying near him in a state of drunkenness, with his scabbard empty, he had no doubt whatever that the crime and the offender were both before him; and seizing the drunkard, he conveyed him to prison.

Next morning he was examined before a magistrate; and being unable to remove the strong presumption which circumstances established against him, he was committed for trial. When tried, he was found guilty; and immediately executed for the murder of which he was perfectly innocent.

The real criminal was some time after condemned to death for another offence; and in his last moments confessed how he had made use of the reveller's sword to execute his own private wrongs.

2.—In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a person was arraigned before Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas, upon an indictment for the murder of a man who dwelt in the same parish with the prisoner.

The first witness against him deposed, that on a certain day, mentioned by the witness, in the morning, as he was going through a close, which he particularly described, at some distance from the path, he saw a person lying dead, and that two wounds appeared in his breast, and his shirt and clothes were much stained with blood; that the wounds appeared to the witness to have been made by the puncture of a fork or some such instrument, and looking about he discovered a fork lying near the corpse, which he took up, and observed it to be marked with the initials of the prisoner's name; here the witness produced the fork in court, which the prisoner owned to be his.

The prisoner waived asking the witness any questions.

A second witness deposed, that on the morning of the day on which the deceased was killed, the witness had risen very early with an intention of going to a neighbouring market town, which he mentioned; that as he was standing in the entry of his own dwelling house, the street door being open, he saw the prisoner come by, dressed in a suit of clothes, the colour and fashion of which he described; that he (the witness) was prevented from going to market, and that afterwards the first witness brought notice to the town of the death and wounds of the deceased, and of the prisoner's fork being found near the corpse; that upon this report the prisoner was apprehended, and carried before a justice of peace; that he, this witness, followed the prisoner to the justice's house, and attended his examination, during which he observed the exchange of clothes the prisoner had made since the time he had seen him in the morning; that on the witness charging him with having

changed his clothes, he gave several shuffling answers, and would have denied it; that upon witness mentioning this circumstance of change of dress, the justice granted a warrant to search the prisoner's house for the clothes described by the witness as having been put off since the morning; that this witness attended and assisted at the search; that after a nice search of two hours and upwards, the very clothes the witness had described, were discovered concealed in a straw bed. He then produced the bloody clothes in court, which the prisoner owned to be his clothes, and to have been thrust in the straw bed with the intention to conceal them on the account of their being bloody.

The prisoner also waived asking this second witness any questions.

A third witness deposed to his having heard the prisoner deliver certain menaces against the deceased, whence the prosecutor intended to infer a proof of *malice prepeuse*. In answer to this the prisoner proposed certain questions to the court, leading to a discovery of the occasion of the menacing expressions deposed to; and from the witness's answer to those questions, it appeared that the deceased had first menaced the prisoner.

The prisoner being called upon for his defence, addressed the following narration to the court, as containing all he knew concerning the manner and circumstances of the death of the deceased. 'He rented a close in the same parish with the deceased, and the deceased rented another close adjoining to it; the only way to his own close was through that of the deceased; and on the day the murder in the indictment was said to be committed, he rose early in the morning, in order to go to work in his close with his fork in his hand, and passing through the deceased's ground, he observed a man at some distance from the path, lying down as if dead or drunk; he thought himself bound to see what condition the person was in; and on getting up to him he found him at the last extremity, with two wounds in his breast, from which much blood had issued. In order to relieve him, he raised him up, and with great difficulty set him on his lap; he told the deceased he was greatly concerned at his unhappy fate, and the more so as there appeared reason to think he had been murdered. He entreated the deceased to discover if possible who it was, assuring him he would do his best endeavours to bring him to justice. The deceased seemed to be sensible of what he said, and in the midst of his agonies attempted to speak to him, but was seized with a rattling in his throat, gave a hard struggle, then a dreadful groan, and vomiting a deal of blood, some of which fell on his (the prisoner's) clothes, he expired in his arms. The shock he felt on account of this accident was not to be expressed, and the rather as it was well known that there had been a difference between the deceased and himself, on which account he might possibly be suspected of the murder. He therefore thought it advisable to leave the deceased in the condition he was, and take no

further notice of the matter ; in the confusion he was in when he left the place, he took the deceased's fork away instead of his own, which was by the side of the corpse. Being obliged to go to his work, he thought it best to shift his clothes, and that they might not be seen, he confessed that he had hid them in the place where they were found. It was true he had denied before the justice that he had changed his clothes, being conscious this was an ugly circumstance that might be urged against him, being unwilling to be brought into trouble if he could help it. He concluded his story with a most solemn declaration, that he had related nothing but the exact truth, without adding or diminishing one tittle, as he should answer for it to God Almighty.'

Being then called upon to produce his witnesses, the prisoner answered with a steady, composed countenance and resolution of voice, '*He had no witnesses but God and his own conscience.*'

The judge then proceeded to deliver his charge, in which he pathetically enlarged on the heinousness of the crime, and laid great stress on the force of the evidence, which, although *circumstantial only*, he declared he thought to be irresistible, and little inferior to the most positive proof. The prisoner had indeed cooked up a very plausible story ; but if such or the like allegations were to be admitted in a case of this kind, no murderer would ever be brought to justice, such deeds being generally perpetrated in the dark, and with the greatest secrecy. The present case was exempted in his opinion from all possibility of doubt, and they ought not to hesitate one moment about finding the prisoner guilty.

The foreman begged of his lordship, as this was a case of life and death, that the jury might withdraw ; and upon this motion, an officer was sworn to keep the jury locked up.

This trial came on the first in the morning, and the judge having sat till nine at night expecting the return of the jury, at last sent an officer to inquire if they were agreed on their verdict. Some of them returned for answer, that eleven of their body had been of the same mind from the first, but that it was their misfortune to have a foreman, who, having taken up a different opinion from them, was unalterably fixed in it. The messenger had no sooner gone, than the complaining members, alarmed at the thought of being kept under confinement all night, and despairing of bringing their dissenting brother over to their own way of thinking, agreed to accede to his opinion, and having acquainted him with their resolution, they sent an officer to detain his lordship a few minutes, and then went into court, and by their foreman brought in the prisoner *not guilty*.

His lordship could not help expressing the greatest surprise and indignation at this unexpected verdict ; and after giving the jury a severe admonition, he refused to record the verdict, and sent them back again with directions that they should be locked up all night without *fire or candle*. The whole blame was publicly laid on the foreman by the rest

of the members, and they spent the night in loading him with reflections, and bemoaning their unhappy fate in being associated with so hardened a wretch. But he remained inflexible, constantly declaring he would suffer death rather than change his opinion.

As soon as his lordship came into court next morning, he sent again to the jury, on which the eleven members joined in requesting their foreman to go into court, assuring him they would abide by their former verdict, whatever was the consequence ; and on being reproached with their former inconstancy, they promised never to desert or recriminate upon their foreman any more.

Upon these assurances they proceeded again into court, and again brought in the prisoner *not guilty*. The judge, unable to conceal his rage at a verdict which appeared to him in the most iniquitous light, reproached them severely, and dismissed them with the cutting reflection, '*That the blood of the deceased lay at their doors.*'

The prisoner on his part fell down on his knees, and with uplifted eyes and hands to God, thanked him most devoutly for his deliverance ; and addressing himself to the judge, cried out, '*You see, my lord, that God and a good conscience are the best witnesses.*'

The circumstance made a deep impression on the mind of the judge ; and as soon as he had retired from court, he entered into conversation with the high sheriff upon what had passed, and particularly examined him as to his knowledge of the foreman of the jury. The high sheriff answered his lordship, that he had been acquainted with him many years ; that he had a freehold estate of his own of above £50 a-year ; and that he rented a very considerable farm besides ; that he never knew him charged with an ill action, and that he was universally beloved and esteemed in his neighbourhood.

For further information, his lordship sent for the minister of the parish, who gave the same favourable account of his parishioner, with this addition, that he was a constant churchman, and a devout communicant.

These accounts increased his lordship's perplexity, from which he could think of no expedient to deliver himself, but by having a conference in private with the only person who could give him satisfaction ; this he requested the sheriff to procure, who readily offered his service, and without delay brought about the desired interview.

Upon the foreman of the jury being introduced to the judge, his lordship retired with him into a closet, where his lordship opened his reasons for desiring that visit, making no scruple of acknowledging the uneasiness he was under on account of the verdict, and conjuring his visitor frankly to discover his reasons for acquitting the prisoner. The juryman returned for answer, that he had sufficient reasons to justify his conduct, and that he was neither afraid nor ashamed to reveal them ; but as he had hitherto locked them up in his own breast and was under no compulsion to disclose them, he expected his

lordship would engage upon his honour to keep what he was about to unfold to him a secret, as he himself had done. His lordship having done so, the juryman proceeded to give his lordship the following account. 'The deceased being the tythe-man where he (the juryman lived, he had the morning of his decease been in his the juryman's grounds, amongst his corn, and had done him great injustice by taking more than his due, and acting otherwise in a most arbitrary manner. When he complained of this treatment, he had not only been abused with scurrilous language, but the deceased had struck at him several times with his fork, and had actually wounded him in two places, the scars of which wounds he then shewed his lordship. The deceased seemed bent on mischief, and the farmer having no weapon to defend himself, had no other way to preserve his own life but by closing in with the deceased, and wrenching the fork out of his hands; which having effected, the deceased attempted to recover the fork, and in the scuffle received the two wounds which had occasioned his death. The farmer was inexpressibly concerned at the accident which occasioned the man's death, and especially when the prisoner was taken up on suspicion of the murder. But the assizes being just over, he was unwilling to surrender himself and to confess the matter, because his farm and affairs would have been ruined by lying so long in gaol. He was sure to have been acquitted on his trial, for he had consulted the ablest lawyers upon the case, who all agreed that as the deceased had been the aggressor, he could only have been guilty of manslaughter at most. It was true he had suffered greatly in his own mind on the prisoner's account; but being well assured that imprisonment would be of less consequence to the prisoner than himself, he had suffered the law to take its course. In order, however, to render the prisoner's confinement as easy to him as possible, he had given him every kind of assistance, and had wholly supported his family ever since. And, to get him clear of the charge laid against him, he had procured himself to be unmoned on the jury, and set at the head of them; having all along determined in his own breast rather to die himself, than to suffer any harm to be done to the prisoner.'

His lordship expressed great satisfaction at this account; and after thanking the farmer for it, and making this farther stipulation, that in case his lordship should survive him, he might then be at liberty to relate this fact, that it might be delivered down to posterity, the conference broke up.

The juryman lived fifteen years afterwards; the judge inquiring after him every year, and happening to survive him, delivered the above relation.

the principal witness was his sister. She proved that her father possessed a small income, which with his industry enabled him to live with comfort; that her brother, who was his heir at law, had often expressed a great desire to come into possession of his father's effects; and that he had long behaved in a very undutiful manner to him, wishing, as the witness believed, to put a period to his existence by uneasiness and vexation; that on the evening the murder was committed, the deceased went a small distance from the house to milk a cow he had for some time kept, and that witness also went out to spend the evening and to sleep, leaving only her brother in the house; that returning home early in the morning, and finding that her father and brother were both absent, she was much alarmed, and sent for some of the neighbours to consult with them, and to receive advice what should be done; that in company with these neighbours she went to the hovel in which her father was accustomed to milk the cow, where they found him murdered in a most inhuman manner; that a suspicion immediately falling on her brother, and there being then some snow upon the ground, in which the footsteps of a human being, to and from the hovel, were observed, it was agreed to take one of her brother's shoes, and to measure therewith the impressions in the snow; this was done, and there did not remain a doubt that the impressions were made with his shoes. Thus confirmed in their suspicions, they immediately went to the prisoner's room, and after a diligent search, they found a hammer in the corner of a private drawer with several spots of blood upon it.

The circumstance of finding the deceased and the hammer, and the identity of the footsteps, as described by the former witness, were fully proved by the neighbours whom she had called; and upon this evidence the prisoner was convicted and suffered death, but denied the act to the last.

About four years after, the sister who had been chief witness was extremely ill; and understanding that there were no hopes of her recovery, she confessed that her father and brother having offended her, she was determined they should both die; and accordingly when the former went to milk the cow, she followed him with her brother's hammer and in his shoes; that she felled her father with the hammer, and laid it where it was afterwards found; that she then went from home, to give a better colour to the horrid transaction, and that her brother was perfectly innocent of the crime for which he had suffered.

She was immediately taken into custody, but died before she could be brought to trial.

3. A man was tried for and convicted of the murder of his own father. The evidence against him was merely circumstantial, and

4.—An upholsterer of the name of William Shaw, who was residing at Edinburgh in the year 1721, had a daughter Catharine who lived with him, and who encouraged the

addresses of John Lawson, a jeweller, contrary to the wishes of her father, who had insuperable objections against him, and urged his daughter to receive the addresses of a son of Alexander Robertson, a friend and neighbour. The girl refused most peremptorily. The father grew enraged. Passionate expressions arose on both sides, and the words 'barbarity, cruelty, and death,' were frequently pronounced by the daughter. At length her father left her, locking the door after him.

The apartment of Shaw was only divided by a slight partition from that of one Morrison, a watch-case maker, who had indistinctly heard the conversation and quarrel between Catharine Shaw and her father, and was particularly struck with the words she had pronounced so emphatically. For some time after the father had gone out all was silent; but presently Morrison heard several groans from the daughter. He called in some of the neighbours, and these listening attentively, not only heard the groans, but also heard her faintly exclaim, 'Cruel father, thou art the cause of my death!' Struck with the expression, they got a constable, and forced the door of Shaw's apartment, where they found the daughter weltering in her blood, and a knife by her side. She was alive, and speechless; but on questioning her as to owing her death to her father, she was just able to make a motion with her head, apparently in the affirmative, and then expired.

At this moment Shaw enters the room. All eyes are upon him! He sees his neighbours and a constable in his apartment, and seems much disordered; but at the sight of his daughter he turns pale, trembles, and is ready to sink. The first surprise and the succeeding horror leave little doubt of his guilt in the breasts of the beholders; and even that little is done away on the constable discovering that the shirt of William Shaw is bloody.

He was instantly hurried before a magistrate, and upon the deposition of the parties, committed for trial. In vain did he protest his innocence, and declare that the blood on his shirt was occasioned by his having blooded himself some days before, and the bandage having become untied. The circumstances appeared so strong against him that he was found guilty, was executed, and hung in chains at Leith. His last words were, 'I am innocent of my daughter's murder.'

There was scarcely a person in Edinburgh who thought the father innocent; but in the following year a man who had become the occupant of Shaw's apartment, accidentally discovered a paper which had fallen into a cavity on one side of the chimney. It was folded as a letter, and on opening it, it was found to contain as follows: 'Barbarous father! your cruelty in having put it out of my power ever to join my fate to that of the only man I could love, and tyrannically insisting upon my marrying one whom I always hated, has made me form a resolution to put an end to an existence which is become a burthen to me.'

This letter was signed, 'Catharine Shaw,' and on being shown to her relations and friends, it was recognised as her writing. The magistracy of Edinburgh examined it, and on being satisfied of its authenticity, they ordered the body of William Shaw to be taken from the gibbet, and given to his family for interment; and as the only reparation to his memory, and the honour of his surviving relations, they caused a pair of colours to be waved over his grave, in token of his innocence.

5.—In the year 1736, Mr. Hayes, a gentleman of fortune, in travelling, stopped at an inn in Oxfordshire, kept by one Jonathan Bradford. He there met with two gentlemen, with whom he supped, and in conversation unguardedly mentioned that he had then with him a considerable sum of money. Having retired to rest, the two gentlemen, who slept in a double-bedded room, were awakened by deep groans in the adjoining chamber. They instantly arose, and proceeded silently to the room whence the groans were heard. The door was half open, and on entering, they perceived a person weltering in his blood, in the bed, and a man standing over him, with a dark lantern in one hand, and a knife in the other. They soon discovered that the gentleman murdered was the one with whom they had supped, and that the man who was standing over him was their host. They instantly seized him, disarmed him of the knife, and charged him with being the murderer. He positively denied the crime, and asserted that he came there with the same intentions as themselves; for that hearing a noise, which was succeeded by groans, he got up, struck a light, and armed himself with a knife in his defence, and was but that minute entered the room before them.

These assertions were of no avail; he was kept in close custody until morning, when he was taken before a neighbouring justice of peace, to whom the evidence appeared so decisive, that on writing out his mittimus, he hesitated not to say, 'Mr. Bradford, either you or myself committed this murder.'

At the ensuing assizes at Oxford, Bradford was tried, convicted, and shortly after executed, still, however, declaring that he was not guilty of the murder. This afterwards proved to be true; the murder was actually committed by Mr. Hayes's footman, who, immediately on stabbing his master, rifled his pockets, and escaped to his own room, which was scarcely two seconds before Bradford's entering the chamber. The world owes this knowledge to a remorse of conscience of the footman on his death-bed, eighteen months after the murder; and dying almost immediately after he had made the declaration, justice lost its victim.

It is, however, remarkable that Bradford, though innocent, and not at all privy to the murder, was nevertheless a murderer in design. He confessed to the clergyman who

attended him after his sentence, that having heard that Mr. Hayes had a large sum of money about him, he went to the chamber with the same diabolical intentions as the servant. He was struck with amazement; he could not believe his senses; and in turning back the bedclothes to assure himself of the fact, he in his agitation dropped his knife on the bleeding body, by which both his hand and the knife became stained, and thus increased the suspicious circumstances in which he was found.

6.—In the year 1742, a gentleman in travelling was stopped by a highwayman in a mask, within about seven miles of Hull, and robbed of a purse containing twenty guineas. The gentleman proceeded about two miles further, and stopped at the Bull inn, kept by Mr. Brunell. He related the circumstances of the robbery, adding, that as all his gold was marked, he thought it probable that the robber would be detected. After he had supped, his host entered the room, and told him a circumstance had arisen which led him to think that he could point out the robber. He then informed the gentleman that he had a waiter, one John Jennings, whose conduct had long been very suspicious: he had long before dark sent him out to change a guinea for him, and that he had only come back since he (the gentleman) was in the house, saying he could not get change: that Jennings being in liquor, he sent him to bed, resolving to discharge him in the morning; that at the time he returned him the guinea, he discovered it was not the same he had given him, but was marked, of which he took no further notice until he heard the particulars of the robbery, and that the guineas which the highwayman had taken were all marked. He added, that he had unluckily paid away the marked guinea to a man who lived at some distance.

Mr. Brunell was thanked for his information, and it was resolved to go softly to the room of Jennings, whom they found fast asleep; his pockets were searched, and from one of them was drawn a purse containing exactly nineteen guineas, which the gentleman identified. Jennings was dragged out of bed and charged with the robbery. He denied it most solemnly; but the facts having been deposed to on oath by the gentleman and Mr. Brunell, he was committed for trial.

So strong did the circumstances appear against Jennings that several of his friends advised him to plead guilty, and throw himself on the mercy of the court. This advice was rejected; he was tried at the ensuing assizes, and the jury without going out of court found him guilty. He was executed at Hull a short time after, but declared his innocence to the very last.

In less than twelve months after this event occurred, Brunell, the master of Jennings, was himself taken up for a robbery committed on a guest in his house, and the fact being proved at his trial, he was convicted and ordered for execution.

The approach of death brought on repentance, and repentance confession. Brunell not only acknowledged having committed many highway robberies, but also the very one for which poor Jennings suffered. The account he gave was, that after robbing the gentleman, he arrived at home some time before him; that he found a man at home waiting, to whom he owed a small bill, and not having quite enough of money, he took out of the purse one guinea from the twenty which he had just possessed himself of, to make up the sum, which he paid to the man, and then went away. Soon after the gentleman came to his house, and relating the account of the robbery, and that the guineas were marked, he became thunderstruck. Having paid one of them away, and not daring to apply for it again, as the affair of the robbery and the marked guineas would soon become publicly known, detection, disgrace, and ruin, appeared inevitable. Turning in his mind every way to escape, the thought of accusing and sacrificing poor Jennings at last struck him; and thus to his other crimes he added that of the murder of an innocent man.

Lord Stourton.

Lord Stourton was, in the year 1556, tried at Westminster Hall for the murder of a Mr. Hartgyl and his son, under very aggravated circumstances. The commission for trying him was directed to the judges, and some of the privy council. At first his lordship refused to plead, but the chief justice informed him that if he persisted in his refusal, his rank should not excuse him from being pressed to death. Upon this he confessed the fact, and was hanged in a silken halter at Salisbury. His monument was some years ago to be seen in the cathedral of that city, with the silken halter hanging over it.

Judicial Precipitation.

The case of M. de Pivardière is one of the most singular instances of criminal precipitation and iniquity that the annals of French justice furnish. Madame de Chauvelin, his second wife, was accused of having had him assassinated in his castle. Two servant-maids were witnesses of the murder; his own daughter heard the cries and last words of her father: 'My God! have mercy upon me!' One of the maid-servants, falling dangerously ill, took the sacrament; and while she was performing this solemn act of religion, declared before God that her mistress intended to kill her master. Several other witnesses testified that they had seen linen stained with his blood; others declared that they had heard the report of a gun, by which the assassination was supposed to have been committed. And yet, strange to relate, it turned out after all that there was no gun fired, no blood shed, nobody killed! What remains is still more extraordinary: M. de la Pivardière returned home; he appears in person before the judges of the

province, who were preparing everything to execute vengeance on his murderer. The judges are resolved not to lose their process; they affirm to his face that he is dead; they brand him with the accusation of imposture for saying that he is alive; they tell him that he deserves exemplary punishment for coining a lie before the tribunal of justice; and maintain that their procedure is more credible than his testimony! In a word, this criminal process continued eighteen months before the poor gentleman could obtain a declaration of the court that he was alive!

In the year 1770, a person of the name of Monthaille, without any accuser, witness, or any probable or even suspicious circumstances, was seized by the superior tribunal of Arras, and condemned to have his hand cut off, to be broken on the wheel, and to be afterwards burnt alive, for killing his mother. This sentence was executed, and his wife was on the point of being thrown into the flames as his accomplice, when she pleaded that she was *enceinte*, and gave the Chancellor of France, who was informed of the infernal iniquity that was perpetrating in the sacred name of justice, time to have the sentence as to her reversed. 'The pen trembles in my hand,' says Voltaire, 'when I relate these enormities! We have seen, by the letters of several French lawyers, that not one year passes in which one tribunal or another does not stain the gibbet or the rack with the blood of unfortunate citizens, whose innocence is afterwards ascertained when it is too late.'

Verdict against Evidence.

It has been well observed by a modern writer that 'we are very apt to mistake the foulness of a crime for certainty of evidence against the individual accused of it; or in proportion as we are impressed with its enormity, the less nice we become in distinguishing the offender.' A striking illustration of this remark once presented itself. An atrocious murder having been committed, an unfortunate individual was accused of being the murderer, and brought to trial. The judge charged the jury that no evidence had been produced against the prisoner, and that therefore they must of necessity acquit him. To the surprise of the court, however, the jury returned a verdict of 'guilty.' The verdict being recorded, the judge requested to know upon what shadow of proof it had been brought. 'My lord,' answered the foreman, 'a great crime has been committed; somebody ought to suffer for it; and we do not see why it should not be this man!'

Lord Chancellor Bacon.

Among the foremost in the ranks of the fawning, treacherous, and corrupt courtiers that surrounded James the First, we discover with pain one of the greatest men that our

country or the world has produced. The friends of science must ever regret that this character should apply to so sublime a genius as Lord Bacon.

The proceedings in the case of Peacham show that there never was a more deliberate enemy to the liberties of his country, nor stauncher supporter of tyranny, even to its extreme verge. This unfortunate man was put to the torture, tried, convicted, and condemned as a traitor, for certain passages said to be treasonable in a sermon which was never preached, nor intended to be so, but only found in writing in his study. The minute made upon the occasion of his torture is still preserved. It is in the handwriting of Secretary Winwood, and states that he had been examined 'before torture, in torture, between torture, and after torture,' and 'that nothing could be drawn from him, he still persisting in his obstinate and insensible denials. This monument of tyranny is signed, among others, by Bacon; and as a fit associate in so barbarous procedure, also by Sir Jervis Elwis, Lieutenant of the Tower, who was condemned and executed two years afterwards for being an accessory to the detestable and treacherous murder of Sir Thomas Overbury.

The case of Wraynham, who was punished by the Star Chamber for slandering Lord Bacon, by accusing him of injustice, is still more melancholy and instructive. He had a cause in Chancery, on which his all depended, against Sir Edward Fisher; and after expending his whole fortune, and that of several compassionate friends who assisted him, he had at last obtained from Lord Bacon's predecessor in the chancery a favourable judgment; which Lord Bacon thought proper, without any cause assigned, to reverse. Wraynham applied for justice to the king, presenting him with a statement of his case, conveyed in language which, if reprehensible, was at least pardonable in a man in his unhappy situation. The king handed over the imprudent supplicant to the Star Chamber. The lords asked him how he dared to speak in the manner which he had done of so pure and upright a character as the lord chancellor? Wraynham replied by the following simple and affecting statement:—

'In making this appeal, I mustered together all my miseries; I saw my land taken away which had been before established unto me; and after six-and-for-y orders and twelve reports made in the cause; nay, after motions, hearings, and re-hearings, fourscore in number, I beheld all overthrown in a moment, and all overthrown without a new bill preferred. I discerned the representation of a prison gaping for me, in which I must from henceforth spend all the days of my life without release: for in this suit I have spent almost £3000, and many of my friends were engaged for me, some injured, others undone: and with this did accompany many eminent miseries likely to ensue upon me, my wife, and four children, the eldest of which being but five years old; so that we, that did every day give bread to others, must now beg bread of others, or else

starve, which is the miserablest of all deaths ; and there being no means to move his majesty to hear the cause, but to accuse his lordship of injustice ; this and all these moved me to be sharp and bitter, and to use words, though dangerous in themselves, yet I hope pardonable in such extremities.'

Mr. Sergeant Crew, on the part of the crown, by way of aggravating Mr. Wraynham's guilt, pronounced a most splendid eulogium on the lord chancellor, whose talents and integrity as a judge were such, he said, that it was a 'foul offence' to traduce him. The learned sergeant farther observed, that at all events the prisoner could not accuse the lord chancellor of *corruption* ; 'for, thanks be to God, he hath always despised riches, and set honour and justice before his eyes ; and where the magistrate is bribed, it is a sign of a corrupted state.'

The result of the business was, that the chamber imposed a fine on Wraynham, which completely ruined him.

Now mark the sequel ! Two years after the sacrifice of this unfortunate man and his family to the purity of Lord Chancellor Bacon, his lordship was accused and convicted by his own confession of bribery and corruption, and gave in to parliament, under his own hand, a list of the bribes which he had received during the period of his filling the office of lord chancellor. In that list how revolting is it to perceive a bribe received *in this very case*, from the miserable Wraynham's opponent in the suit which reduced his family to beggary, and condemned himself to spend the remainder of his days in a jail !

Sir Edward Coke.

Preparatory to the trial of Peacham, Lord Chancellor Bacon, as appears by his own letters to the king, was employed by his majesty to overcome the scruples of some of the judges, who doubted whether the crime amounted to high treason. In this unconstitutional negotiation he met with the stern opposition of Sir Edward Coke, who, after Lord Bacon had searched the record for precedents, and perverted his intellect to the utmost, in order to bring the case under the description of treason, gave his written opinion against him. The king was much enraged at the opposition, and bitterly accused Sir Edward of 'caring more for the safety of such a monster, than the preservation of the crown.'

Sir Edward Coke always displayed an unpierable zeal for correcting abuses, for establishing the authority of the laws, and confining the prerogative to its proper bounds. In the parliament which met in 1621, he shined beyond all preceding patriots in the abilities he showed in guiding the councils of parliament, in the strength and propriety of the arguments he urged for the authority and privileges of parliament, turning by his conduct the smiles of a court into a commit-

ment to the Tower, and a rifling of his papers. He, to his everlasting honour, was in the succeeding reign the man who proposed and framed the petition of right. The cares of the greatest part of his life were not only for the age in which he lived, but that posterity might feel the advantages of his almost unequalled labours. He was the first who reduced the knowledge of the English laws into a system. His voluminous writings on this subject have given light to all succeeding lawyers ; and the improvements which have been made in this science owe their source to this great original : the service he rendered his country in this respect is invaluable. But whilst he laboured to his very last moments to render the law intelligible, and consequently serviceable, to his fellow citizens, he was oppressed in the most illegal manner by the government. Secretary Windebank, by virtue of an order of the council for seizing certain seditious papers, entered his house at the time he was dying, and took away his 'Commentary upon Littleton,' his history of that judge's life, his 'Commentary upon *Magna Charta*,' his 'Pleas of the Crown and Jurisdiction of Courts,' with fifty-one other MSS., together with his will. The last was never returned, to the great distraction of his family affairs, and loss to his numerous posterity.

Habeas Corpus Act.

Bishop Burnett relates a curious circumstance respecting the origin of that important statute, the Habeas Corpus Act. 'It was carried,' says he, 'by an odd artifice in the House of Lords. Lord Grey and Lord Norris were named to be the tellers ; Lord Norris being a man subject to vapours, was not at all times attentive to what he was doing : so a very fat lord coming in, Lord Grey counted him for ten, as a jest at first ; but seeing Lord Norris had not observed it, he went on with this misreckoning of *ten* ; so it was reported to the house, and declared that they who were for the bill were the majority, though it indeed went on the other side ; and by this means the bill passed.'

Supremacy of the Laws.

'The King of Spain,' says Mr. Selden in his 'Table Talk,' 'was outlawed in Westminster Hall, I being of counsel against him ; a merchant had recovered costs against him in a suit, which because he could not get, we advised him to have his majesty outlawed for not appearing, and so he was. As soon as Gondemar, the Spanish Ambassador, heard that, he presently sent the money : by reason if his master had been outlawed, he could not have had the benefit of the law, which would have been very prejudicial, there being then many suits between the King of Spain and our merchants.'

When the ambassador of Peter the Great was arrested for debt in London, in the latter end of Queen Anne's reign, the Czar expressed his astonishment and indignation, that the persons who had thus violated the respect due to the representative of a crowned head, were not immediately put to death. His astonishment was considerably increased when he was told, that the sovereign of the country himself had no power of dispensing with the laws of the land, to which he was himself subjected.

Christian IV., King of Denmark.

One Christopher Rosenkranz, in Copenhagen, demanded from the widow of Christian Tuul a debt of five thousand dollars. She was certain that she did not owe him anything; but he produced a bond signed by herself and her deceased husband, which, however, she declared to be forged. The affair was brought before a court of justice, and the widow was condemned to pay the demand. In her distress, she applied to King Christian IV., who promised to take the affair into consideration. He sent for Rosenkranz, questioned him closely, begged, exhorted, but all to no purpose. The creditor appealed to the written bond. The king asked for the bond, sent Rosenkranz away, and promised that he would very soon return it to him. The king remained alone to examine this important paper, and discovered after much trouble, that the paper manufacturer, whose mark was on the bond, had not begun his manufactory till many years after its date. The inquiries made, confirmed this fact. The proof against Rosenkranz was irrefragable. The king said nothing about it, but sent for Rosenkranz some days after, and exhorted him in the most affecting manner to have pity on the poor widow, because, otherwise, the justice of heaven would certainly punish him for such wickedness. He unblushingly insisted on his demand, and even presumed to affect to be offended. The king's mildness went so far, that he still gave him some days for consideration; but all to no purpose. He was then arrested and punished with all the rigour of the laws.

Judicial Integrity.

A country gentleman once sent a present of a buck to Judge Hales, before whom he had a cause coming on for trial. The cause being called, and the judge taking notice of the name, asked, 'If he was not the person that had presented him with a buck?' Finding that he was the same, the judge told him 'he could not suffer the trial to go on till he had paid him for his buck.' The gentleman answered, 'That he never sold his venison, and that he had done no more to his lordship than what he had always done to every judge who came that circuit.' Several gentlemen on the bench bore testimony to the truth of

this statement; but nothing would induce the judge to give way; he persisted in refusing to allow the trial to proceed till he had paid for the venison. The gentleman on this, somewhat indignant, withdrew the record, saying, 'he would not try his cause before a judge who suspected him to be guilty of bribery by a customary civility.' A noble contest! between judicial integrity on one side, and honourable hospitality on the other!—a contest eminently characteristic of the English judge and English gentleman.

Lord Keeper Williams.

Williams, the lord keeper in the reign of James I., seeing a new church at Malden, inquired at whose cost it had been built? Mr. George Minors, who attended him, mentioned the name of the greatest contributor. 'And has he not a suit now depending in chancery?' said the keeper. 'The same,' answered Minors. 'Well,' said the keeper, 'he shall not fare the worse for building of churches.' This being told the gentleman, the next morning he sent a present of fruit and poultry to the lord keeper, who refused it, saying to Minors, 'Carry it back, George, and tell your friend he shall fare never the better for his fruit and poultry.'

Lord Balmerino.

On the trial of this nobleman for sedition, nine of the jury, with a single exception, were ineffectually challenged; but when Traquair, a minister of state, was admitted, it was no longer doubtful that the rest were industriously selected for their hostility to Balmerino, or their devotion to the crown. The experiment did not entirely succeed. One of the jurymen, Gordon of Buckie, had been engaged in the murder of the Earl of Murray, and was appointed, therefore, as a sure man on the present occasion. When the jury had withdrawn, Gordon addressed them unexpectedly in the most pathetic terms, and conjured them to reflect that the life of an innocent nobleman was at stake, whose blood would lie heavy on their souls to the last hour of their lives. While the tears streamed down his aged cheeks, he protested that his hands had once been imbrued in blood, for which he had procured a pardon from his sovereign; but that it had cost him many sorrowful days and nights to obtain a remission to his conscience from heaven. The jury were moved with this impressive address; but Traquair, their foreman, resumed the argument, that it belonged to the court to determine whether the law was severe, or the petition seditious; whether the prisoner had concealed it, was all that remained for them to decide. After a long altercation, the jury were equally divided; and, in consequence of the final suffrage of Traquair, their foreman, Balmerino was convicted of having heard and concealed a seditious petition, and of having foreborne to

reveal the author. Sentence of death was immediately pronounced; but his execution, to the great umbrage of the prelates, was suspended during the pleasure of the king.

Colonel Lilburn.

The account which is preserved in the state trials of the case of John Lilburn (afterwards Colonel Lilburn), prosecuted in the Star Chamber, 'for printing and publishing seditious books,' and written by Lilburn himself, displays much of the dauntless and noble spirit which oppression never fails to call forth, and which afterwards animated the singularly intrepid author of this curious production successfully to brave Cromwell himself, in the zenith of his power, when, to any other individual, the attempt must have been fatal.

Lilburn, at the time of his trial, was but twenty years of age. He was accused of sending over from Holland, for the purpose of being distributed in England, some of Dr. Bastwick's books; and though he was innocent of the charge, he disdained to screen himself, which he might easily have done, by taking what was termed the Star Chamber oath, because he conceived it to be unlawful. For this piece of contumacy, he was fined £500, and sentenced to be publicly whipped. This punishment was inflicted with great barbarity; and he was, the same day, in view of the Star Chamber judges, placed, with his back smarting under the pain of his lashes, on the pillory, where, in consequence of his haranguing the people, he was gagged, imprisoned in irons for two years and a half in the Fleet, and treated there with the utmost cruelty. This sentence the House of Commons, in 1641, voted to be 'illegal, and against the liberty of the subject, and also bloody, cruel, wicked, barbarous, and tyrannical.'

Richard Chambers.

A merchant in London of the name of Richard Chambers, having sustained some loss by a confiscation of part of his property by the custom-house officers, in a moment of passion unfortunately said, in the hearing of some of the privy council, 'that the merchants in England were more wrung and screwed than in foreign parts.' For this grievous offence he was brought before 'the honourable court of Star Chamber,' as it was termed, and fined £2000, for which he was imprisoned six years. The fine was by some of the members of the court considered to be too small; and, among the worthy personages who were of this opinion, we find the names of Bishops Laud and Neal, who were seldom, indeed, disposed to err on the side of lenity. Chambers appears to have possessed much of the laudable spirit of resistance which had now begun to rise in England. It was part of his sentence to sign a very mean submission, which was accordingly prepared; but when it was brought to him, he absolutely refused; and, with all the terrors

of a prison in view, wrote under it, that 'he abhorred and detested it as unjust and false, and never till death would acknowledge any part of it.' In consequence of his determined opposition to the tyranny of the government, on this and other occasions, Chambers was utterly ruined; and it is painful to find, that though his case was admitted to be hard, and his conduct meritorious, the parliament in the day of retribution overlooked twenty-six years of suffering, and allowed this friendless and resolute champion of the people's rights, to die of poverty and a broken heart at the age of seventy.

William Penn.

When the meeting-house of the Quakers in Gracechurch Street was taken possession of by a body of soldiers, August 15, 1670, with the view of hindering them from assembling to worship God in their own way, their celebrated leader, William Penn, went and preached to them in the open air, in the immediate vicinity. The satellites of an arbitrary government were pleased to construe this into a breach of the peace; Penn, and one of his associates of the name of Mead, were arrested, indicted, and tried for the imputed offence at the Old Bailey, on the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th of September following.

Penn and his friend, agreeably to the custom of their sect, entered the court with their hats on; and on one of the officers pulling them off, the lord mayor exclaimed, 'Sirrah, who bid you put off their hats? Put on their hats again.'

Recorder to the prisoners. 'Do you know where you are? Do you know it is the king's court?'

Penn. 'I know it to be a court, and I suppose it to be the king's court.'

Recorder. 'Do you not know that there is respect due to the court? and why do you not pull off your hats?'

Penn. 'Because I do not believe that to be any respect.'

Recorder. 'Well, the court sets forty marks a piece upon your heads, as a fine for your contempt of the court.'

Penn. 'I desire it may be observed, that we came into court with our hats off (that is, taken off); and if they have been put on since, it was by order of the bench, and therefore not we, but the bench, should be fined.'

After the witnesses for the prosecution had been examined, and the prisoners were called upon for their defence, Penn demanded to know upon what law the indictment was grounded?

Recorder. 'Upon the common law.'

Penn. 'Where is that common law?'

Recorder. 'You must not think that I am able to run up so many years, and ever so many adjudged cases, which we call common law, to answer your curiosity.'

Penn. 'This answer, I am sure, is very short of my question; for if it be common, it should not be so hard to produce.'

Recorder. 'Sir, will you plead to your indictment?'

Penn reiterated his demand, to know on what law that indictment was founded.

Recorder. 'You are a saucy fellow; speak to the indictment.'

After some further altercation:

Recorder. 'You are an impertinent fellow; will you teach the court what law is? it is *lex non scripta*, that which many have studied thirty or forty years to know, and would you have me tell you in a moment?'

Penn. 'Certainly if the common law is so hard to be understood, it is far from being common; but if the Lord Coke, in his Institutes, be of any consideration, he tells us that common law is common right, and that common right is the greater charter of privileges. I design no affront to the court; but to be heard in my just plea; and I must plainly tell you, that if you will deny me oyer of the law which you say I have broken, you do at once deny me an acknowledged right; and evidence to the whole world, your resolution to sacrifice the privileges of Englishmen to your sinister and arbitrary designs.'

Recorder. 'Take him away.'

Lord Mayor. 'Take him away, take him away; turn him in the bail dock.'

Penn was now dragged into the bail dock.

Mead being then called on, a scene exactly similar to the preceding took place, and he also was thrust into the bail dock.

The recorder charged the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty.

Penn. (With a loud voice from the bail dock.) 'I appeal to the jury, who are my judges, and this great assembly, whether the proceedings of the court are not most arbitrary, and void of all law. I have not been heard; neither can you of the jury legally depart the court, before I have been fully heard.'

Recorder. 'Pull the fellow down, pull him down.'

The jury were now desired to go upstairs, in order to agree upon a verdict, and the prisoners remained in the bail dock. After an hour and a half's time, eight came down agreed, but four remained above until sent for. The bench used many threats to the four that dissented: and the recorder addressing himself to one of them of the name of Bushel, said, 'Sir, you are the cause of this disturbance, and manifestly show yourself an abettor of faction; I shall set a mark upon you, sir.'

Alderman Sir J. Robinson, Lieut. of the Tower. 'Mr. Bushel, I have known you near this fourteen years; you have thrust yourself upon this jury.'

Alderman Bludworth. 'Mr. Bushel, we know what you are.'

Lord Mayor. 'Sirrah, you are an impudent fellow; I will put a mark upon you.'

The jury being then sent back to consider their verdict, remained for some time; and on their return, the clerk having asked in the usual manner, 'Is William Penn guilty of the matter wherein he stands indicted, or not

guilty?' the foreman replied, 'Guilty of speaking in Gracious (Gracechurch) Street.'

Court. 'Is that all?'

Foreman. 'That is all I have in commission.'

Recorder. 'You had as good say nothing.'

The jury were ordered to go and consider their verdict once more. They declared that they had given in their verdict, and could give in no other. They withdrew, however, after demanding and obtaining pen, ink, and paper; and returning at the expiration of half an hour, the foreman addressed himself to the clerk of the peace, and presenting the following written decision, said, 'Here is our verdict.' 'We, the jurors hereafter named, do find William Penn to be guilty of speaking or preaching to an assembly met together in Gracious Street on the 14th of August, 1670, and that William Mead is not guilty of the said indictment.'

'Foreman, Thomas Veer,
Edward Bushel,' &c.

Recorder. 'Gentlemen, you shall not be dismissed till we have a verdict that the court will accept, and you shall be locked up without meat, drink, fire, or tobacco; you shall not think thus to abuse the court; we will have a verdict by the help of God, or you shall starve for it.'

Penn. 'My jury, who are my judges, ought not to be thus menaced; I do desire that justice may be done me, and that the arbitrary resolves of the bench may not be made the measure of my jury's verdict.'

Recorder. 'Stop that prating fellow.'

Penn. 'The agreement of twelve men is a verdict in law; and such an one being given by the jury, I require the clerk of the peace to record it, as he will answer at his peril. And if the jury bring in another verdict contradictory to this, I affirm they are perjured men in law.' Then looking towards them, he emphatically added, 'You are Englishmen; mind your privilege, give not away your right.'

The court now swore several of its officers to keep the jury all night without meat, drink, fire, &c. and adjourned.

Next morning, which happened to be Sunday, the jury were again brought up; when having persevered in their verdict, much abuse was heaped upon them, particularly on the 'factious fellow,' Bushel.

Bushel observed that he had acted 'conscientiously.'

The expression called forth some very pleasant jeers from the court; who, being still determined not to yield the point, sent back the jury a third time. The jury were, however, inflexible; a third time they returned with the same verdict.

The recorder at this greatly incensed and perplexed, threatened Bushel with the weight of his vengeance. 'While he had anything to do with the city, he would have an eye upon him.' The lord mayor termed him 'a pitiful fellow,' and added, 'I will cut his nose for this.'

Penn. 'It is intolerable that my jury should be thus menaced.'

Lord Mayor. 'Stop his mouth, jailor; bring him fetters, and stake him to the ground.'

Penn. 'Do your pleasure. I matter not your fetters.'

The court determined to make one trial more of the firmness of the jury. The foreman remonstrated in vain, that any other verdict '*would be a force on them to save their lives,*' and the jury refused to go out of court, until obliged by the sheriff.

The court sat again next morning at seven o'clock, when the prisoners and the jury were brought up for the fourth time.

The Clerk. 'Is William Penn guilty or not guilty?'

Foreman. 'Not guilty.'

Clerk. 'Is William Mead guilty or not guilty?'

Foreman. 'Not guilty.'

Recorder. 'I am, sorry, gentlemen, you have followed your own judgments and opinions, rather than the good and wholesome advice that was given you. *God keep my life out of your hands!* but for this the court fines you forty marks a man, and commands imprisonment till paid.'

Both jury and prisoners were both forced together into the bail-dock, for non-payment of their fines, whence they were carried to Newgate.

Mr. Bushel immediately sued out a writ of Habeas Corpus; and the cause having come to be heard, at length, before the twelve judges, they decided that the fining and imprisonment were contrary to law.

The jury were accordingly discharged; on which they respectively brought actions against the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Recorder, and obtained exemplary verdicts.

Lord Chancellor Shaftesbury.

Lord Shaftesbury, who had already filled up some great offices, was by Charles II. appointed to the dignified and illustrious one of Lord Chancellor, though he had never studied the law, and had never been called to the bar. On that account, he used to preside in the Court of Chancery in a brown, instead of a black silk gown. Dryden praises the conduct of his lordship, while he filled this great office, in the following lines:—

'Yet fame deserv'd no enemy can grudge,
The statesman we abhor, but praise the judge.

In Israel's court ne'er sat an Abethdin
With more discerning eyes, or hands more clean;

Unbrib'd, unsought, the wretched to redress,
Swift of despatch, and easy of access!

Charles II. used to say of the same nobleman, that he possessed in him a chancellor who had more law than all his judges, and more divinity than all his bishops.

He is said to have been made chancellor, ex-

pressly on purpose to affix the great seal to the noted declaration, issued by Charles, in favour of the dissenters, and Popish recusants; but which the monarch was afterwards obliged by the party under whose domination he was, to cancel. During a debate in the House of Lords, on the subject of this declaration, Clifford, who was treasurer to the Duke of York, attacked it violently, while Shaftesbury of course spoke strongly in its favour. The Duke of York is reported to have said to Charles on the occasion, 'Brother, what a rogue you have of a Lord Chancellor.' To which Charles replied, 'Brother what a fool you have of a Lord Treasurer.'

Judge Jeffries.

A singular story is told of this truly infamous judge, which shows that when free from state influence, he was not without a sense of the natural and civil rights of men, and an inclination to protect them.

The mayor, aldermen, and justices of Bristol, had been in the practice of condemning criminals to be transported to the American plantations, and then selling them by way of trade; and finding the commodity turn to a good account, they contrived a method to make it more plentiful. When any petty rogue or pilferer was brought before them in a judicial capacity, they were sure to threaten him stoutly with hanging; and there was always some busy officer in attendance, who would advise the ignorant intimidated creature to pray for transportation, as the only way of escaping the gallows—an advice that was but too generally followed. Without any more ado, sentence of transportation was then made out; each alderman had and sold his man in rotation; and not unfrequently disputes arose about the order of preference in this nefarious traffic.

For many years this abominable prostitution of the judicial functions had gone on unnoticed, when it came to the knowledge of Chief Justice Jeffries, as he was on his sanguinary progress through the West, against the adherents of Monmouth. Finding upon inquiry, that the mayor was the leading agent in the practice, he made him descend from the bench where he was sitting, and stand at the bar in his scarlet robes, and plead with the rest of his brethren as common criminals. He then took security from them to answer informations; but the general amnesty, after the revolution, put a stop to the proceedings, and left the magistracy of Bristol to the secure enjoyment of their iniquitous gain.

The venerable author of Lord Guildford's Life, who narrates the preceding anecdote, tells us also, that when Jeffries was in temper, and matters between subject and subject came before him, no one became a seat of justice better. He talked silently and with spirit; but his weakness was, that he could not reprove without scolding. He called it *giving a lick with the rough side of his tongue*. Jeffries took great pleasure in mortifying

fraudulent attornies. A scrivener of Wapping having a cause before him, one of the opponent's counsel said that he was a strange fellow—that he sometimes went to church, sometimes to conventicles; and that none could tell what to make of him, though it was rather thought that he was a *trimmer*. At this, the chief justice was instantly fired. '*A trimmer!*' said he; 'I have heard much of that monster, but never saw one; come forth, Mr. Trimmer, and let me see your shape.' And he treated the poor fellow of a scrivener so roughly, that when he came out of the hall, he declared that he would not undergo the terrors of that man's face again to save his life, and that while he lived, he should never forget the dreadful impression it had made on him.

How truly the frightened scrivener spoke, will be seen by the sequel. When the Prince of Orange came over, and all was in confusion, Jeffries being justly obnoxious to the people, prepared to go beyond sea. He disguised himself in the dress of a sailor, and acting up to the assumed character, was drinking a pot of beer in a cellar, when the Wapping scrivener chanced to enter, in quest of some of his clients. His eye instantly caught the never-to-be forgotten visage of the chancellor; he gave a start of surprise but said nothing. Jeffries seeing himself observed, feigned a cough, and turned away his head; but Mr. Trimmer immediately went out and gave notice that he had discovered this most hated of men. A crowd of people rushed into the cellar, seized him, and carried him before the lord mayor, who sent him under a strong guard to the Lords of the Council, by whom he was committed to the Tower, where he ended his days, April 18, 1689.

Hanging an Alderman.

During the disturbances on the Exclusion Bill of the Duke of York, it was thought necessary, by the nefarious ministry of Charles the Second, to hang an Alderman of London, to intimidate the rest of the citizens from continuing their spirited and honourable opposition to the measures of that corrupt court. Sir Robert Clayton was the person first intended to have been thus scandalously sacrificed. The Chancellor Jeffries, however, who, by the interest of Sir Robert had been appointed Recorder of London, prevailed upon the administration to spare him, and to take Mr. Alderman Cornish in his stead; who accordingly suffered, to the disgrace of all who were concerned in this infamous perversion of justice.

Scandalizing a Princess.

When the news arrived in England, that Prague was taken from the Palsgrave of Bohemia, who had married the Princess Elizabeth, Mr. Edward Floyd, a Roman Catholic gentleman, who happened to be a prisoner at

the time in the Fleet, was heard to remark, that Goodman and Goody Palsgrave were now turned out of doors, and to make several other irreverent observations of the same kind.

The expressions were reported abroad, and so sinful were they deemed, that both Houses of Parliament thought it necessary to take them under their serious consideration. Of the proceedings in the Upper House, the only record that remains is the sentence; but those of the Commons have been preserved for the edification of posterity. Witnesses were examined who proved the words, and that Floyd's countenance was in a very indecent degree joyful when he pronounced them. It was farther proved that he was a 'pernicious papist,' and a 'wicked fellow,' so that, in short, the poor gentleman had nothing to say for himself against the charge of having joked at the misfortunes of such high folks as 'Goodman and Goody Palsgrave.' The crime being thus established, a very strange debate arose as to the punishment to be inflicted on this most heinous offender.

Sir Robert Philips was of opinion, that since his offence had been without limitation, his punishment might likewise be without proportion. He would have him ride with his face to a horse's tail from Westminster to the Tower, with a paper on his hat, wherein should be written, 'A Popish wretch that hath maliciously scandalized his majesty's children,' and that at the Tower he should be lodged in little ease, with as much pain as he shall be able to endure without loss or danger of life.

Sir Francis Seymour was for standing more 'on the *privilege* and power of the house. He would have him go from thence to the Tower at a cart's tail with his doublet off, his beads about his neck, and that he should have as many lashes as he hath beads.'

Sir Edward Giles thought that, besides being whipped, he should stand in the pillory.

Sir Francis Darcy 'would have a hole burnt through his tongue, since that was the member that offended.'

Sir Jeremy Horsey thought the tongue should be cut out altogether.

Sir George Goring agreed with none of the merciful gentlemen who had preceded him. 'He would have his nose, ears, and tongue cut off; to be whipped at as many stages as he hath beads, and to ride to every stage with his face to the horse's tail, and the tail in his hand, and at every stage to swallow a bead; and thus to be whipped to the Tower, and there to be hanged!'

Sir Joseph Jephson 'would have moved, that a committee might be appointed to consider of the heaviest punishments that had been spoken of; but because he perceived the house inclined to mercy! he would have him whipped more than twice as far,' &c.

The debate was adjourned without anything being definitively agreed on; and before it was resumed, the House of Lords being resolved to be something more than sharers in

the honour of punishing 'so vile and uncutiful subject,' objected to the power of punishment assumed by the Commons, as an invasion of their *privileges*. The Commons, after long and violent debates, were at last obliged, after inserting a protest in their journals, to give up the point; and Floyde was now left to the upper House, who equally inclined to mercy, pronounced the following sentence: '1. That the said Edward Floyde shall be incapable to bear arms as a gentleman, and that he shall be ever held an infamous person, and his testimony not to be taken in any court or cause. 2. That on Monday next, in the morning, he shall be brought to Westminster Hall, and there set on horseback, with his face to the horse's tail, holding the tail in his hand, with papers on his head and breast declaring his offence, and so to ride to the pillory in Cheapside, and there to stand two hours on the pillory, and here to be branded with a letter K on his forehead. 3. To be whipped at a cart's tail, on the first day of the next term, from the Fleet to Westminster Hall, with papers on his head declaring his offence, and then to stand on the pillory there two hours. 4. That he shall be fined to the king in £5000. 5. That he shall be imprisoned in Newgate *during his life*.'

This inhuman sentence was carried into execution, with the exception of the third branch of it, which was suspended on a motion of the Prince of Wales (Charles I.) till the pleasure of the house should be known. It is worthy of notice too, that the only opposition that was made to these proceedings, was by the king, who sent a message to the House of Commons, in which, after complimenting them for their great loyalty, he remarked with characteristic shrewdness, that 'out of too great a zeal comes heresy;' and added that the lawyers who were present at the debate were inexcusable.

Chief Justice Holt.

In the time of this eminent judge, a riot happened in London, arising out of a wicked practice then very common, of kidnapping young persons of both sexes, and sending them to the plantations. Information having gone abroad that there was a house in Holborn which served as a lock-up place for the persons so ensnared, till an opportunity could be found of shipping them off, the enraged populace assembled in great numbers, and were going to pull it down. Notice of the tumult being sent to Whitehall, a party of the guards were commanded to march to the spot; but an officer was first sent to the lord chief justice, to acquaint him with the state of matters, and to request that he would send some of his officers along with the soldiers; in order to give a countenance to their interference.

The officer having delivered his message, Lord Chief Justice Holt said to him, 'Suppose the populace should not disperse at your

appearance, what are you to do then?' 'Sir,' answered the officer, 'we have orders to fire upon them.' 'Have you, sir?' replied his lordship; 'then take notice of what I say; if there be one man killed, and you are tried before me, I will take care that you, and every soldier of your party, shall be hanged. Sir,' continued he, 'go back to those who sent you, and acquaint them that no officer of mine shall attend soldiers; and let them know at the same time, that the laws of this kingdom are not to be executed by the sword; these matters belong to the civil power, and you have nothing to do with them.'

The lord chief justice then went himself in person, accompanied by his tipstafis and a few constables, to the scene of the disturbance; and by his reasonable expostulations with the mob, succeeded without the least violence in making them all disperse quietly.

The integrity and uprightness of Holt as a judge, are celebrated in the 'Tatler,' No. 14, under the excellent character of Verus, the Magistrate.

Privilege of Parliament.

In the year 1704, several persons who claimed to be freemen of the Borough of Aylesbury were refused the privilege of voting at an election for member of parliament, and brought an action against the returning officer for the penalties which the law imposes in such cases. The House of Commons conceiving this appeal to the courts to be an evasion of their privileges, passed an order, declaring it to be penal in either judge, or counsel, or attorney, to assist at the trial. The lord chief justice (Holt) and several lawyers were, notwithstanding, bold enough to disregard this order, and proceeded with the action in due course. The house, extremely offended at this contempt of their order, sent the sergeant-at-arms to command the judge to appear before them; but this resolute administrator of the laws refused to stir from his seat. On this the Commons sent a second message by their speaker, attended by a great many of their members. After the speaker had delivered his message, his lordship replied to him in the following memorable words: 'Go back to your chair, Mr. Speaker, within these five minutes, or you may depend on it I'll send you to Newgate. You speak of your authority! But I tell you I sit here as an interpreter of the laws, and as a distributor of justice; and were the whole House of Commons in your belly, I would not stir one foot.' The speaker was prudent enough to withdraw, and the house with equal prudence let the matter drop.

Retributive Justice.

The following curious facts illustrative of retributive justice have been collected by De Foe. The era of the circumstances is the reign of Charles the First, and the troubles

that followed it. The extraordinary coincidence of the dates of some of the events, seems to designate the particular crime which provoked the punishment of its perpetrators.

The English parliament called in the Scots to invade their king; and were invaded themselves by *the same* Scots in defence of the king, whose case, and the designs of the parliament, the Scots had mistaken.

The parliament which raised an army to depose Charles, was deposed by the army it had raised. This army broke three parliaments, but was at length broken by a free parliament.

Sir John Hotham, who repulsed his majesty, and refused him admittance into Hull before the war, was seized by the parliament for which he had done it, on the same 10th day of August two years after he spilled the first blood in that war. His son, Captain Hotham, was executed on the 1st of January, which was the day on which he had assisted Sir Thomas Fairfax in the first skirmish with the king's forces on Bramham Moor.

On the 6th day of August, 1641, the parliament voted to raise an army against the king; the same day and month in 1648, the parliament was turned out of doors by that very same army.

The Earl of Holland deserted the king who had made him general of horse, and went over to the parliament. The king sent to him for his assistance on the 11th of June, 1641, which the earl refused; and on the 11th of July, 1648, seven years after, he was taken by the parliament at St. Neots, and beheaded on the 9th of March, 1649, O. S.; on which day in the year 1641, he had carried the declaration of the Commons, which was filled with reproaches, to the king.

The parliament voted to approve of Sir John Hotham's resistance to the king at Hull, on the 28th of April, 1641; the day on which in the year 1660, they first debated in the house the restoration of Charles the Second.

Thus much for the days of Charles; nor are testimonies of similar occurrences, apparently connected by the same singularity of time, wanting in the earlier reigns.

Cranmer was burnt at Oxford the same day and month that he gave Henry the Eighth the advice to divorce his Queen Catherine.

Queen Elizabeth died the same day and month that she resolved, in her privy council, to behead the Queen of Scots; and her successor, James, died the same day and month that he published his book against Bellarmine.

Clameur de Haro.

In the time of Rollo of Normandy, a custom prevailed in that country, that in all cases of invasion of property, or personal violence, requiring immediate remedy, the party aggrieved called aloud on the name of the duke three several times, and the aggressor was instantly, at his peril, to forbear attempting anything further. The words of this invocation form a phrase still common in Jersey, *Ha*

Ro à l'aide, mon prince! Aa, or Ha, is the exclamation of a person suffering; *Ro*, is the duke Rollo's name abbreviated. Such is that famous *Clameur de Haro*, which subsisted in practice long after Rollo was no more, and is so much praised by all who have written on the Norman laws.

A memorable example of the power of this appeal was exhibited about one hundred and seventy years after Rollo's death, at the funeral of William the Conqueror.

It seems that in order to build the great abbey of St. Stephen at Caen, where he desired to be interred after his decease, the conqueror had caused several houses to be pulled down to enlarge the area, and among them one whose owner had received no satisfaction for his loss. The son of this person (others say the person himself,) observing the grave of William to be dug on that very spot of ground which had been the site of his father's house, went boldly into the midst of the funeral assemblage, and forbade them, in the name of Rollo, to bury the body there.

Paulus Æmilius, who relates the story, says that he addressed himself to the company in these words:—

'He who oppressed kingdoms by his arms has been my oppressor also, and has kept me under a continual fear of death. Since I have outlived him who injured me, I mean not to acquit him now he is dead. The ground wherein you are going to lay this man is mine; and I affirm, that none may in justice bury their dead in ground which belongs to another. If, after he is gone, force and violence are still used to detain my right from me, I APPEAL TO ROLLO, the founder and father of our nation, who though dead, lives in his laws. I take refuge in those laws, owning no authority above them.'

This bold speech, uttered in presence of the departed king's own son, Prince Henry, afterwards King Henry I., wrought its effect; the *Ha—Ro* was respected; the man had compensation made him for his wrongs, and all opposition ceasing, the dead king was laid in his grave.

In the life of William the Conqueror, in the Harleian collection, the incident is thus related:

'When the bishop had finished his sermon, one Anselm Fitz-Arthur stood up among the multitude, and with a high voice said, "This ground whereupon we stand, was some time the floor of my father's house, which that man, of whom you have spoken, when he was Duke of Normandy, took violently from my father, and afterwards founded thereon this religious building. This injustice he did not by ignorance or oversight, nor by any necessity of state; but to content his own covetous desire: now therefore I do challenge this ground as my right; and do here charge you, as you will answer it before the fearful face of Almighty God, that the body of the spoiler be not covered with the earth of my inheritance."

When the bishops and noblemen that were present heard this, and understood by the res-

imony of many that it was true, they agreed to give him three pounds presently for the ground that was broken for the place of burial; and for the residue which was claimed, they undertook he should be fully satisfied. This promise was performed in a short time after by Henry, the king's son, who only (of his sons) was present at the funeral; at whose appointment Fitz-Arthur received, for the price of the same ground, one hundred pounds.

Lord Sanquhar.

In the reign of James the First, Lord Sanquhar was tried for procuring the murder of John Turner, a fencing master. His lordship and Turner were playing at foils at the house of Lord Norreys in Oxfordshire, when Lord Sanquhar told him, he played only as a scholar, not as a master. It was always a rule to spare the face; yet Turner pushed at his lordship's eye, and put it out. His lordship, though indignant at the injury he had received, passed it over for the time, without seeking any revenge; but going to the court of France, Henry IV. asked him how he had lost his eye? and being told by his lordship, the king exclaimed, 'Does the man live!' This made such an impression on the young nobleman, that he returned to England, and caused Turner to be murdered in the Whitefriars. The king would not suffer nobility to be a shelter to villany, and ordered Sanquhar to be indicted in the Court of King's Bench. He challenged his trial by peers; but that was denied him, as he was only a lord in Scotland, and not a lord in parliament, nor possessing any English barony. He was accordingly arraigned and found guilty, and executed in Great Palace Yard, before Westminster Hall gate, on a gibbet erected for the purpose.

Carlile and Irving, the two persons who murdered Turner, were hanged against the great gate of Whitefriars in Fleet Street. One of the gibbets was higher than the other, and Carlile being a gentleman, insisted that he manner of Scotland was, that when a gentleman was hanged with a man of a meaner quality than himself, the gentleman had the honour of the highest, and thought himself wronged if it was not allowed him

Old Scotch Law.

At the restoration, the Scotch courts of law became highly tyrannical; and those which possessed a criminal jurisdiction, displayed what indeed was, in former times, no novelty in that country, a very abominable spirit of injustice.

Among the expedients which the lawyers for the crown devised to degrade juriesmen to become senseless instruments of tyranny, there was one which vested the power of convicting in the judges, when the jury doubted not only of the *criminality of the fact*, but even of the

fact itself. For this purpose they drew up their indictments very circumstantially, not only stating the crime, but also the minute facts, trifling or important, from which they inferred the prisoner's guilt. When it was suspected that a jury would scruple to find a crime in general proved, they were required to return a *special verdict*. Accordingly, they were often weak enough to return a verdict, finding proved a long chain of circumstances specified in the indictment, leaving it entirely in the breast of the judges to determine whether these circumstances did establish the fact charged.

Thus, in the trial of Robert Carmichael, schoolmaster (14th September, 1699) for the murder of one of his scholars, it was proved, that the boy was in perfect health at two in the afternoon when he went to school, and that before three he was carried out of it dead. It was found by the jury that the prisoner did three times successively make the deceased be held up, and severely lashed him on the back, 'and in rage and fury, did drag him from his desk, and beat him with his hand upon the head and back with heavy and severe strokes, and after he was out of his hands he immediately died.' That after the boy's death, the side of his head was swelled, and there were livid marks on it, and the marks of many stripes on the back and thighs. Although these circumstances, as well as a rattling noise in his breast upon the third beating, and a good quantity of blood being found under his body after death which had issued from the stripes on his back, afford complete conviction (the body was not opened) that he died of the beating; yet the lenity of the court in this instance seemed to increase with the barbarity of the criminal, and they only sentenced him *to receive seven stripes, and to be banished Scotland for life*

Secret Examination of Witnesses.

Voltaire, in his 'Commentary on Beccaria's Treatise on Crimes and Punishments,' speaks thus of the French practice, with regard to the examination of witnesses in secret: 'With us everything is done secretly; a single judge, with his clerk, hears every witness, the one after the other. This practice, established by Francis I., was authorized by the commissioners who prepared the ordinance of Louis XIV. in 1670. A mistake alone was the cause of it.' Voltaire then explains from Bernier that a passage in the civil law had been misunderstood, enjoining witnesses, '*intrare judicii secretum*,' which only signifies that they should enter the judge's private chamber, but does not direct that they should be secretly examined.

Banishment.

In the Island of Seriphus, no man was of old ever put to death, however great the crime might be which he committed. In the

opinion of the people, the severest punishment which could possibly be inflicted, was to banish them for ever from their native soil ; and such accordingly was their highest penal enactment.

The love of country is generally stronger among islanders than with the inhabitants of continental countries ; and hence the opposite policy of the Emperor Claudius, who made it one of his heaviest punishments to prohibit persons from stirring beyond the compass of three miles from the city of Rome.

Dr. Moore mentions an instance of a young and noble Venetian, who was banished to the Isle of Candia, and who, in the hopes of seeing again the walls of his native country, of embracing again his friends and family, committed a new crime, which he knew to be capital, in order that he might be recalled to Venice, to take his trial, and die on the scaffold.

Peter the Great.

There was at Moscow a very learned counsellor in the law, whose reputation reaching the ears of Peter the Great, he raised him to the rank of Chief Judge, or Governor of the province of Novogorod. On appointing him to this office, his majesty declared to him in the most formal manner, that he had as much confidence in his integrity as in his skill in settling disputes impartially ; and that he trusted he would continue to distribute justice in a disinterested manner throughout the extent of his jurisdiction.

The new judge faithfully discharged his duties for some time ; but after a few years had elapsed, it was publicly reported that he received presents ; that he perverted the laws, and committed flagrant acts of injustice. Peter, who flattered himself that he had not been deceived in his choice, considered it at first a calumny ; but on making the necessary inquiry, found that the judge, upright as he had thought him, was no longer so ; but that, corrupted by presents, he had more than once made a trade of justice.

The monarch determined on questioning the judge, who confessed that he had suffered himself to be seduced by bribes in several affairs submitted to his judgment, and that he had pronounced sentences contrary to law. On being reproached by the king, he pleaded the lowness of his salary, which would not enable him to provide anything for his wife and children, or permit him to live in a condition suitable to the rank to which he had been raised. 'How much, then,' said the Czar, 'would it require to put you above the necessity of receiving presents, and making a trade of justice?' 'Twice the income I enjoy at present,' answered the judge. 'Will that be sufficient,' said the Czar, 'to enable you to discharge the duties of your office with fidelity?' The judge declared it would, and pledged himself to future good conduct. 'Well, then,' said the Czar, 'I pardon you for this time ; you shall enjoy double your

present salary, and I will add to it half as much more, on condition that you keep your word.'

The governor, transported with joy, fell at the feet of his sovereign to return him thanks. His conduct for more than a year was conformable to the wishes of the Czar, and he administered justice faithfully ; but fancying at last that the monarch had long ceased from watching his conduct, he began to take presents again, and to commit acts of oppression and injustice. The Czar being informed of it, the judge was tried and found guilty ; a message from the sovereign was sent to him, intimating that as he had not kept his word, the prince was under the necessity of keeping his ; and the corrupt judge was accordingly hanged.

Responsibility of Judges in Holland.

A servant girl was erroneously convicted at Middleburg of robbing her master ; the property was found locked up in her box ; her mistress had placed it there. She was flogged, brand marked, and confined to hard labour in the rasp house. Whilst she was suffering her sentence, the guilt of her mistress was discovered. The mistress was prosecuted, condemned to the severest scourging, a double brand, and hard labour for life. The sentence was reversed, and a heavy fine inflicted on the tribunal, and given to the innocent sufferer as an indemnification.

Arnold the Miller.

A miller, of the name of John Michael Arnold, bought the lease of a mill belonging to the estate of Count Schmeitau, of Pommerzig, situated in the New Marche of Brandenburg, near the city of Custrin. This mill, at the time when Arnold bought the lease of it, was plentifully supplied with water, by a rivulet, which empties itself into the river Warta. During six years, Arnold made several improvements in the mill, and paid the rent regularly ; but at the end of that period, the proprietor resolving to enlarge a fish pond contiguous to his seat, caused a canal to be cut from the rivulet, by which means the stream was lessened, and the quantity of water so much diminished, that the mill could only work during two or three weeks in spring, and about as many in autumn.

The miller remonstrated, but in vain ; and when he sought redress in a court of judicature at Custrin, his lord, being a man of fortune and influence, found means to frustrate his endeavours to obtain justice. Under these circumstances the miller could no longer procure his livelihood, and pay his rent. The miller's lease, utensils, goods, and chattels, were seized to pay the arrears of rent, and the expenses of a most iniquitous lawsuit commenced by the proprietor, and thus poor

Arnold and his family were reduced to want and wretchedness.

A flagrant injustice like this could not pass unnoticed by some friends to humanity, who well knew the benevolent and equitable intentions of their sovereign, Frederick the Great. They advised and assisted the miller to lay his case before the king; who, struck with the simplicity of the narrative, and the injustice that had apparently been committed, resolved to inquire minutely into the affair, and if the miller's assertions were true, to punish in an exemplary manner the authors and promoters of such an unjust sentence.

The most rigid inquiries were immediately instituted, and his majesty was soon convinced that the sentence against the miller was an act of the most singular injustice and oppression. He then ordered his High Chancellor, Baron Furst, and the three counsellors, who had signed the sentence, into his cabinet, and on their arrival he put the following questions to them.

1.—When a lord takes from a peasant who rents a piece of ground under him, his waggon, horse, plough, and other utensils, by which he earns his living, and is thereby prevented from paying his rent, can a sentence of distress, in justice, be pronounced against that peasant?

They all answered in the negative.

2.—Can a like sentence be pronounced upon a miller for non-payment of rent for a mill, after the water which used to turn his mill is wilfully taken from him, by the proprietor of his mill?

They also answered this question in the negative.

Then, said the king, 'you have yourselves acknowledged the injustice you have committed,' and he immediately stated the case of the miller, and ordered the sentence, with their respective signatures, to be laid before him. The king ordered his private secretary to read the resolutions which he had dictated to him, and signed: in which he declared the sentence against the miller, to be an act of singular injustice, and one which he was determined to punish. 'For,' said his majesty, 'the judges are to consider, that the meanest peasant, nay, even a beggar, is a man as well as the king, and consequently equally entitled to impartial justice; as in the presence of justice all are equal, whether it be a prince who brings a complaint against a peasant, or a peasant who prefers one against a prince; in similar cases justice should act uniformly, without any respect to rank or person. This ought to be an universal rule for the conduct of judges; for an unjust magistrate, or a court of law, guilty of wrong, and subservient to oppression, is more dangerous than a band of robbers, against whom any man may be on his guard; but bad men, entrusted with authority, who, under the cloak of justice practise their iniquities, are not so easily guarded against; they are the worst of villains, and deserve double punishment.'

The king then dismissed his chancellor, and commanded the three counsellors who with him had signed the iniquitous sentence, to be

committed to prison. The president, judges, and counsellors at Custrin, were also arrested, and a commission appointed to proceed against them according to law. And in consideration of the injustice, the king presented the miller, Arnold, with the sum of fifteen hundred rix dollars. He also ordered that a sum equal to that produced by the sale of the miller's effects, be stopped, and paid to him, from the salaries due to the respective judges, &c., who had any share in the unjust sentence; and moreover condemned the proprietor of the mill to reimburse to the miller, all the rent he had received from the time when he first opened the canal.

Frederick the Great.

When Frederick the Second of Prussia built the palace of Sans Souci, there happened to be a mill, which greatly limited him in the execution of his plan; and he desired to know how much the miller would take for it. The miller replied, that for a long series of years his family had possessed the mill, which had passed from father to son, and that he would not sell it. The king used solicitations, offered to build him a mill in a better place, and to pay him beside any sum which he might demand; but the obstinate miller still persisted in his determination to preserve the inheritance of his ancestors. The king irritated at his resistance, sent for him, and said in an angry tone, 'Why do you refuse to sell your mill, notwithstanding all the advantages which I have offered you?' The miller repeated all his reasons. 'Do you know,' continued the king, 'that I could take it without giving you a farthing?' 'Yes,' replied the miller, 'if it were not for the chamber of justice at Berlin.' The king was extremely flattered with this answer, which shewed that he was incapable of an act of injustice. He dismissed the miller without further entreaty, and changed the plan of his gardens.

Emperor of China.

The Viceroy of one of the Provinces of China, very remote from the Imperial city, had wrongfully confiscated the estate of an honest merchant, and reduced his family to extreme misery. The poor man having found means to travel as far as Peking, obtained a letter from the emperor to the viceroy, commanding him to restore the goods which he had taken so illegally; but, far from obeying this command, the viceroy threw the bearer of it into prison. Here he remained for some time, but making his escape, he went once more to the capital, where he threw himself at the emperor's feet, who treated him with humanity, and gave orders that he should have another letter. The merchant wept at this resolution, and represented how ineffectual the first had proved, and the reason he had to fear: that the second would be as little regarded. The emperor, who had been

detained by this complaint, as he was going in great haste to dine with one of his favourites, felt a little discomposed, and answered with some emotion, 'I can do no more than send my commands; and if the viceroy refuses to obey them, put thy foot on his neck.' 'I implore your majesty's compassion,' replied the merchant, holding fast the emperor's robe, 'his power is too mighty for my weakness, and your justice prescribes a remedy which your wisdom has never examined.'

The emperor had by this time recovered himself, and raising the merchant from the ground, he said, 'You are in the right; to complain of the viceroy was your part, but it is mine to see him punished. I will appoint commissioners to go back with you, and make search into the ground of his proceeding, with power if they find him guilty, to deliver him into your hand, and leave you viceroy in his stead; for since you have taught me how to govern, you must be able to govern for me.'

Patriotic Dying Speech.

On the 3rd of June, 1734, one Michael Carmody, a journeyman weaver, was executed in the County of Cork, in Ireland. His branch of business had long been in a very declining way, owing to the wearing of cottons, which was highly destructive to the woollen manufacture, and in general injurious to the kingdom. The criminal was dressed in cotton; and not only the hangman, but the gallows, was decorated too. When Carmody was brought to the place of execution, his whole thoughts were turned upon the distresses of his country; and instead of making use of his last moments with the priest, the poor fellow addressed the surrounding multitude, in the following extraordinary oration: 'Give ear, O good people, to the words of a dying sinner! I confess I have been guilty of many crimes that necessity obliged me to commit; which starving condition I was in, I am well assured, was occasioned by the scarcity of money that has proceeded from the great discouragement of our woollen manufactures.

'Therefore, good Christians, consider, that if you go on to suppress your own goods by wearing such cottons as I am now clothed in, you will bring your country into misery, which will consequently swarm with such unhappy malefactors as your present object is, and the blood of every miserable felon that will hang, after this warning from the gallows, will lie at your doors.

'And if you have any regard for the prayers of an expiring mortal, I beg you will not buy of the hangman the cotton garments that now adorn the gallows, because I can't rest quiet in my grave if I *should see* the very things worn that brought me to misery, thievery, and this untimely end; all which I pray of the gentry to hinder their children and servants, for their own characters' sakes, though

they have no tenderness for their country, because none will hereafter wear cottons, but oyster-women, criminals, hucksters, and common hangmen.'

Perhaps sentiments of a more patriotic nature could not have been uttered by a Sydney or a Russell, than what were expressed in the coarse unstudied harangue of this unfortunate malefactor.

Power of Conscience.

Dr. Fordyce, in his 'Dialogues on Education,' relates the following striking incident, which he says occurred in a neighbouring state. A jeweller, a man of good character and considerable wealth, having occasion to leave home on business at some distance, took with him a servant. He had with him some of his best jewels and a large sum of money. This was known to the servant, who, urged by cupidity, murdered his master on the road, rifled him of his jewels and money, and suspending a large stone round his neck, threw him into the nearest canal.

With the booty he had thus gained, the servant set off to a distant part of the country, where he had reason to believe that neither he nor his master were known. There he began to trade; at first in a very humble way, that his obscurity might screen him from observation; and in the course of many years, seemed to rise by the natural progress of business into wealth and consideration; so that his good fortune appeared at once the effect and reward of industry and virtue. Of these he counterfeited the appearance so well, that he grew into great credit, married into a good family, and was admitted into a share of the government of the town. He rose from one post to another, till at length he was chosen chief magistrate. In this office he maintained a fair character, and continued to fill it with no small applause, both as governor and a judge; until one day as he presided on the bench with some of his brethren, a criminal was brought before him, who was accused of murdering his master. The evidence came out fully; the jury brought in their verdict that the prisoner was guilty, and the whole assembly waited the sentence of the president of the court with great suspense.

The president appeared to be in unusual disorder and agitation of mind; his colour changed often; at length he arose from his seat, and descending from the bench, placed himself close to the unfortunate man at the bar, to the no small astonishment of all present. 'You see before you,' said he, addressing himself to those who had sat on the bench with him, 'a striking instance of the just awards of heaven, which, this day, after thirty years' concealment, presents to you a greater criminal than the man just now found guilty.' He then made a full confession of his guilt, and of all its aggravations. 'Nor can I feel,' continued he, 'any relief from the agonies of an awakened conscience, but by

requiring that justice be forthwith done against me in the most public and solemn manner.

We may easily suppose the amazement of all the assembly, and especially of his fellow judges. However, they proceeded upon his confession to pass sentence upon him, and he died with all the symptoms of a penitent mind.

Long Suit.

The longest suit on record in England, is one which existed between the heirs of Sir Thomas Talbot, Viscount Lisle, and the heirs of a Lord Berkeley, respecting some property in the country of Gloucester, not far from Wotton-under-edge. It began at the end of the reign of Edward IV., and was depending until the beginning of that of James I., when it was finally compounded, being a period of not less than one hundred and twenty years!!!

Extraordinary Punishment.

The most extraordinary punishment which is perhaps on record, is to be found in Morryson's 'Account of Germany.' 'Near Lindau I did see a malefactor hanging in iron chains on the gallows, with a massive dogge hanging on each side by the heels, as being nearly starved, they might eat the flesh of the malefactor before himself died by famine; and at Frankforde I did see the like punishment of a Jew.'

The only thing which may serve to lessen our surprise at this shocking refinement in cruelty, is the reflection that it happened in a country so pre-eminent for the horrid nature of its punishments, that no one can be prevailed upon to accept the office of executioner, but he who by being the son of a hangman, is obliged to be trained up, and take upon himself the necessary employment.

Corrupt Influence.

The practice of privately influencing judges concerning causes before them, prevailed even in remote times of supposed simplicity. Hesiod, who had a troublesome law-suit with his brother Perseus, inveighs strongly against it; he calls the Bæotian judges, *devourers of presents*.

In England it was anciently the established usage, to pay fines for delaying proceedings, even affecting the defendant's life; at other times they were paid to expedite process, and to obtain right; and in some cases the parties litigant offered part of what they might recover, to the crown, as a bribe for its favour. Madox mentions many instances of fines for 'the king's favour,' and particularly of the dean of London's paying twenty marks to the king, that he might assist him against the bishop in a law-suit.

The county of Norfolk (always represented

as a litigious county, in so much, that the number of attornies allowed to practise in it, was limited by a statute of Henry VI. to eight) paid an annual composition at the Exchequer, that it might be fairly dealt with.

Daniel asserts, that the influence of Alice Pierce was so great, that she used to sit on the bench with the judges in Westminster Hall, when she interested herself in a cause. She was forbidden by a writ of Edward III. from interfering, under pain of banishment.

Charles II. in appeals to the House of Lords, used to go about whilst the cause was hearing, and solicit particular lords for appellant or respondent. The practice had indeed increased to a most shameful extent, just previous to the revolution; and all historians agree, that nothing gave deeper sensations of disgust, than the corrupt decisions which by such means were procured from the base and timid men who filled the seat of judgment.

Whitelocke in his Memoirs, p. 13, says, 'My father did often and highly complain against this way of sending to the judges for their opinion before hand; and said, that if Bishop Laud went on in this way, he would kindle a flame in the nation.' How truly he predicted need not be told.

Dr. Donne, in his fifth satire, has the following witty allusion to the practice:

'Judges are gods; and he who made them
so,
Meant not men should be forced to them
to go;
By means of *angels*.'

The satirist here plays on the double sense of the word 'angels,' signifying both a coin and a messenger.

In Scotland so shamelessly did they go about the work of corruption of old, that there is actually extant an order of the Court of Session, or Act of Sederunt, as they call it, which appoints the particular hours of the day, at which the judges may be solicited at their own houses!

Amidst the systematic corruption which we find prevailed before the revolution, some solitary instances of an opposite character are however to be met with, which would have done honour to the purest periods of our judicial history.

A nobleman of the first distinction went once to the chamber of Sir Matthew Hale, when Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and told him, 'that having a suit in law to be tried before him, he had come to acquaint his lordship with it, that he might the better understand the matter when it should come into court.' Hale immediately interrupted him, and said, 'he did not deal fairly to come to his chamber about such affairs, for he never received information of any causes but in open court, where both parties were to be heard alike.' The nobleman went away not a little dissatisfied, and complained to the king (Charles II.) of Judge Hale's conduct, as a rudeness that was not to be endured. His majesty desired him to be content that he had

been used no worse, adding, 'that he verily believed the baron would have used himself no better, had he gone to solicit him privately in any one of his own causes.'

Balance of Good and Ill.

The Persians held of old this very charitable maxim, that to be good, it was not necessary never to do amiss, but to do for the most part that which was right. When a person accordingly was accused of any breach of the laws, and even clearly proved to be guilty, they did not immediately condemn him to be punished, but proceeded to make a scrupulous enquiry into the whole course of his life, in order to see whether the good or evil actions in it predominated: if the good weighed heaviest in the scale, he was acquitted: and it was only if otherwise that he was condemned.

The Sleep of Innocence.

Titus Cælius was found murdered in his bed, and the only persons on whom suspicion of the crime rested, were two of his own sons, who slept in the same room. The brothers were arraigned for the crime; but it appearing from the evidence, that when the mangled body was first discovered by some persons stepping into the chamber, both the sons were seen fast asleep on the bed adjoining, the judges ordered their acquittal. It was justly considered, that nature could not permit a man to sleep over the bleeding remains of a newly-murdered father.

Favour to Strangers.

One of the strongest instances of favour to a stranger, in obtaining his right by action, appears to have been shown to Fynes Morryson, at Lindau, in Germany; where he not only obtained immediate satisfaction from the judge, but his advocate would not take any fee from him, as being a foreigner.

Tavernier mentions, that one of his fellow travellers happening to die in a Persian town, a seal was immediately put upon the effects of the deceased, which on his return a year afterwards had not been removed.

African Doom.

The report of the Secret Committee of the House of Commons, on the state of the British forts on the western coast of Africa, contains the following account of the mode of trial for offences among the natives:

'Trial proceeds, for the most part, upon evidence; but in particular cases the ordeal, or doom, is resorted to. Doom is a poisonous bark, and is thus administered with great ceremony. The accused person, or a proxy, is stripped quite naked, and seated on the

ground in a public place; a certain quantity is given, which he or she must eat; immediately after, a large calabash of water is placed before the person, who drinks as much as the stomach will contain, when vomiting consequently takes place. If the doom is thrown up, the person is considered innocent; if it remains on the stomach, it is an indication of guilt: the latter seldom occurs; however, there have been some instances which have proved fatal. The idea of doom strikes such a terror into the minds of the natives, that I am of opinion very few submit to the trial who are not perfectly innocent.'

Extraordinary Petition.

To the Right Honourable the Lord Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

The humble petition of Ralph Griffith, Esq., High Sheriff of the County of Flint, for the present year, 1769, concerning the execution of Edward Edwards, for burglary;

SHEWETH,

That your petitioner was at great difficulty and expense by himself, his clerks, and other messengers and agents he employed, in journeys to Liverpool and Shrewsbury, to hire an executioner; the convict being a native of Wales, it was almost impossible to procure any of that country to undertake the execution.

Travelling and other expenses on that occasion, £15 10s.

A man at Salop engaged to do this business. Gave him in part £5 5s. Two men for conducting him, and for their search of him on his deserting from them on the road, and charges on enquiring for another executioner £4 10s.—£9 15s.

After much trouble and expense, John Babington, a convict in the same prison with Edwards, was by means of his wife, prevailed on to execute his fellow prisoner. Gave to the wife £6 6s. and to Babington £6 6s.—£12 12s.

Paid for erecting a gallows, materials, and labour, a business very difficult to be done in this country, £4 12s.

For the hire of a cart to convey the body, a coffin, and for the burial, £2 10s.; and for other assistance, trouble, and petty expenses on the occasion, at least £5.—£7 10s.

Which humbly hope your lordships will please to allow your petitioner, who, &c.

The Guillotine.

Persons who reflect only on the deeds of horror, with the recollection of which the name of the guillotine must ever be associated, may be apt to regard as a monster the man who invented it. It is a curious fact, however, that it was the device of one of the most gentle and humane of men; and that its introduction was solely prompted by a desire of diminishing the severity of capital punish-

ment. M. Guillotin, whose name was transferred to his invention, was a physician at Paris; and being appointed a member of the National Assembly, attracted attention chiefly by a great mildness of disposition. On the 1st of December, 1789, he made a speech on the penal code, remarkable for its philanthropic views; and concluded by a proposal or substituting as less cruel than the halter, the machine which has given to his name an almost immortal immortality. Nobody, we have been assured, deplored more bitterly than M. Guillotin, the fatal use which was speedily made of his invention. He is described by those who were best acquainted with him, as being a clever, placid, reserved man, of unimpaired integrity. When he perceived the course which the revolution was taking, he withdrew from all share in its direction, to the practice of his profession, in which he came distinguished as much by his humanity as his skill.

Sir Michael Foster.

'Each judge was true and steady to his trust,
As Mansfield wise, and as old Foster just.'

The Princess Amelia, daughter of King George II., having, as Ranger of Richmond Park, directed that a common footway through the park should be stopped, some irritated inhabitants of the neighbourhood sought an indictment for the obstruction against Martha Gray, Keeper of East Sheen Park.

The cause was for a long time depending about the prosecutors being able to bring the question of right to a trial, in consequence of the technical difficulties thrown in the way by the counsel for the princess, and the backwardness of the judges to go into a case where royalty was so nearly concerned. It came on at length for trial before that court to the bench, Sir Michael Foster, then Lord Chief Justice De Grey, on an important occasion, characterized by the dramatic appellation of 'the Magna Charta Liberty, of persons as well as fortunes.' For the prosecutors had gone through part of their evidence, Sir Richard Lloyd, who was counsel on the part of the crown, said that it was needless for them to go upon the case, as the crown was not prepared to try it, this being an indictment which could not legally determine it, because the obstruction was charged to be in the parish of Wimbledon, whereas it was in that of Mortlake, &c.

The judge turned to the jury, and said he thought they were come there to try a right in the subject claimed to a way through Richmond Park, and not to cavil about little objections which had no relation to that point. He thought it below the honour of the crown, after this business had been pending three assizes, to send one of its select counsel to stickle on so small a point as this.

Sir R. Lloyd replied in a speech, in which

he enlarged much on the gracious disposition of the king, in suffering the cause (an indictment) to be tried at all, since he could have suppressed it with a single breath, by ordering a *nolle prosequi* to be entered.

Justice Foster said he was not of that opinion. The subject was interested in such indictments as these, for removing nuisances, and could have no remedy but this, if their rights be encroached upon; wherefore he should think it a denial of justice in the king to stop a prosecution for a nuisance which his whole prerogative does not extend so far as to pardon.

The evidence was then gone through, and the judge summed up shortly, but clearly, for the prosecutors, for whom a verdict was returned.

Lord Thurlow (when a counsel) speaking of this case in a letter to Mr. Ewen, one of the nephews and co-executors of Justice Foster, observes, 'It gave me, who am a stranger to him, great pleasure to hear that we have an English judge, whom nothing can tempt or frighten, ready and able to hold up the laws of his country as a great shield of the rights of the people.'

A Village Patriot.

The footway from Hampton Wick through Bushy Park (a Royal demesne) to Kingston-upon-Thames, had been for many years shut up from the public. An honest shoemaker, Timothy Bennett, of the former place, 'unwilling (it was his favourite expression) to leave the world worse than he found it,' consulted an attorney upon the practicability of recovering this road for the public good, and the probable expense of a legal process for that purpose. 'I do not mean to cobble the job,' said Timothy, 'for I have *seven hundred pounds*, and I should be willing to give up the *awl*, that great folks might not keep the *upper leather* wrongfully.' The lawyer informed him that no such sum would be necessary to try the right; then, said the worthy shoemaker, 'as sure as *soles* are *soles* I'll stick to them to the *last*;' and Lord Halifax, the then *Ranger* of Bushby Park, was immediately served with the regular notice of action; upon which his lordship sent for Timothy, and on his entering the lodge, his lordship said, with some warmth, 'And who are you that has the assurance to meddle in this affair?' 'My name, my lord, is Timothy Bennett, shoemaker, of Hampton-wick. I remember, an't please your lordship, to have seen, when I was a young man sitting at work, the people cheerfully pass by my shop to Kingston market; but now, my lord, they are forced to go round about, through a hot sandy road, ready to faint beneath their burden; and *I am unwilling to leave the world worse than I found it*. This, my lord, I humbly represent, is the reason why I have taken this work in hand.' 'Begone,' replied his lordship, 'you are an impertinent fellow.' However, upon mature reflection,

his lordship, convinced of the equity of the claim, began to compute the shame of a defeat by a *shoemaker*, desisted from his opposition notwithstanding the opinion of the crown lawyers, and re-opened the road, which is enjoyed by the public without molestation to this day. Honest Timothy died about two years after, in the 77th year of his age, and was followed to the grave by all the populace of his native village.

Mock Punishment.

In the year 1787, there happened to be a dispute between the Dutch Factory and the Hottentots at the Cape of Good Hope. One of the former being up the country, was killed by a Hottentot, upon which the chief, or heads of the people, were summoned to find out the offender and bring him to the Bar of Trade, and there punish him, according to their laws, for so great a crime. This was carried into execution in the following singular manner. The Hottentots made a great fire, and brought the criminal, attended by all his friends and relations, who took their leave of him, not in sorrowful lamentations, but in feasting, dancing, and drinking. When the unfortunate criminal had been plentifully supplied with liquor till he became insensibly drunk, his friends made him dance till he was quite spent with fatigue; in that state they threw him into the fire, and concluded the horrid scene with a hideous howl which they set up immediately after the criminal was despatched.

Some time after this, one of the Factory killed a Hottentot, upon which the great men came and demanded justice for the blood of their countryman; but the offender happened to be one of the best accountants, and a person whom the Factory could ill spare. However, the crafty Dutchmen devised means to render satisfaction to the natives, under a colour of justice, by the following scheme. They appointed a day for the execution of the murderer, when the Hottentots assembled in great numbers, little conscious of the trick that was to be imposed upon them. A scaffold was erected, and the criminal was brought forth, dressed in white, attended by a minister; after praying, singing psalms, &c., the mock executioner presented him with a flaming draught, which the poor Hottentots supposed was to render an atonement for the loss of their deceased countrymen. The criminal received his potion, which was no other than a little burning brandy, with all the outward signs of horror and dread; his hand shook, his body trembled, and his whole frame appeared in the most violent agitation; he at last with seeming reluctance swallowed the draught, and after observing the farce of trembling, &c., for a few minutes, he fell down apparently dead, and a blanket was immediately thrown over him. The Hottentots then made a shout that rent the air, and retired perfectly pleased; observing, 'The Dutch have been more severe than ourselves;

for they have put fire into the criminal, whereas we only put the criminal into the fire.'

Jeremy Bentham quotes this anecdote to show, that if the same effect can be produced by the appearance as by the reality of punishment, the former ought to be preferred. But of this it is certainly not an illustration. The end of all punishment, as Mr. Bentham knows, is less to satisfy the injured than to deter the evil-minded. And who will say that drinking a goblet of burnt brandy was a punishment fitted to deter Dutchmen in future from sporting with the lives of the inoffensive Hottentots? The natives were deceived, but the colonists were not.

Submission to the Laws.

Diodorus Siculus tells us that among the Ethiopians such was the high respect paid to the mandates of justice, that it was thought even less disgraceful to suffer an ignominious death than to escape it by flight. The custom was to send a lictor to the malefactor with the sign of death, and to leave him to choose his own way of going out of the world. Diodorus mentions a case where an individual to whom the final doom had been sent, having resolved to save himself by flying out of the country, his mother suspecting his design, rather than permit him so to disgrace himself, fastened her girdle about his neck, and strangled him with her own hands!

Jew Outwitted.

A Jew had ordered a French merchant in Morocco to furnish him with a considerable quantity of black hats, green shawls, and red silk stockings. When the articles were ready for delivery, the Jew refused to receive them. Being brought before the emperor, who administers justice himself, he denied having given him the order, and maintained that he did not even know the French merchant. 'Have you any witness?' said the emperor to the Frenchman. 'No.' 'So much the worse for you; you should have taken care to have had witnesses; you may retire.' The poor merchant, completely ruined, returned home in despair. He was, however, soon alarmed by a noise in the street; he ran to see what it was. A numerous multitude were following one of the emperor's officers, who was making the following proclamation at all the cross roads:—'Every Jew, who within four and twenty hours after this proclamation, shall be found in the streets without a black beaver hat on his head, a green shawl round his neck, and red silk stockings on his legs, shall be immediately seized, and conveyed to the first court of our palace, to be there flogged to death.' The children of Israel all thronged to the French merchant, and before evening the articles were purchased at any price he chose to demand for them.

Crown Prince of Persia.

Abbas Mirza, Crown Prince of Persia, is one of the most remarkable men of the present age. He is not a mere soldier, but his finer qualities render him still more worthy of succeeding to the Persian throne. Moritz Von Otzebue relates the following honourable anecdote of him:—"The Russian ambassador," said he, "perceived in the garden belonging to the prince a projecting corner of an old wall, which made a very ugly contrast with the rest, and disfigured the prospect. He asked Abbas Mirza why he did not have it pulled down? "Only think," replied the prince; "I have bought this garden from several proprietors in order to make something magnificent; the proprietor of the place where the wall projects is an old peasant, the only person who positively refused to sell me his piece of land, as he would not part with it at any price, it being an old family possession. I can confess it is very vexatious; but, notwithstanding, I honour him for his attachment to his forefathers, and still more for his wisdom in refusing it me; but I will wait till the heir of his shall be more reasonable."

Laws of War.

General Theodore Von Reding, who commanded the Swiss troops in the service of Prussia, at the battle of Baylen, and by his intrepidity, personal valour, and sound judgment greatly contributed to the success of that day, was as distinguished for his justice and clemency as for his courage. On the morning before the battle several dragoons of the most distant picquets of cavalry, riding into the camp about twenty Andalusian peasants, who were conducting a number of mules and asses laden with water, by a direct road, to the French, when they were intercepted by the Swiss. The heat was so excessive, that persons of eighty years of age remembered nothing equal to it. The peasants, trembling, awaited their sentence before the general's tent, well knowing that death was the consequence of their crime. At last the general appeared. Curiosity had drawn together some young officers, to whom Reding said, "Gentlemen, form a circle. These men, I must tell you, addressing the officers with great seriousness, 'were conveying to the French, who are, we know, suffering for want of water, that necessary article; now determine their punishment; I will collect your votes.' "The gallows, according to the laws of Prussia," said the first, the second, and the third. The peasants turned pale. Some voted for hanging them; the most compassionate for shooting lots, and punishing every fifth man. "I do not let us," said the general, "decide hastily in a case of such importance; each of you, gentlemen, can know how many may survive to-morrow? What induced you to turn to the peasants to act in this manner? You ought to contribute to our success, and whose interest it is to do the

French all possible harm, even you bring provisions to the enemy's camp!" "General, we have done wrong," said one of the peasants, "but have some excuse to offer. Our huts and corn were a prey to the flames. We are all fathers of families, and no prospect but starvation remained to us for the approaching winter. We knew very well that the French paid two reals for a glass of water; with this money we hoped to relieve ourselves from want. Our sons are here in the army, and we also are prepared to die fighting for our country. A part of this very money was intended for powder, as we are too poor to procure our ammunition, as is required of us." Tears sparkled in the eyes of the hero. He went into his tent, came out with a purse in his hand, and gave every peasant a piece of gold worth five ducats, saying, "Divide the water among your countrymen, and leave the French to me; to-morrow they will have something to drink." He would not stop to receive their thanks, but immediately after this noble action withdrew.

Compensation.

The Morlacchi, a warlike people inhabiting the inland mountains of Dalmatia, are faithful in their friendships, and not implacable in their revenge. A Morlack who has killed another of a powerful family, is commonly obliged to save himself by flight, and to keep out of the way for several years. If during that time he has been fortunate enough to escape the search of his pursuers, and has got a small sum of money, he endeavours to obtain pardon and peace; and, that he may treat about the conditions in person, he asks and obtains a safe conduct, which is faithfully maintained, though only verbally granted. Then he finds mediators; and, on the appointed day, the relations of the two hostile families are assembled, and the criminal is introduced, dragging himself along on his hands and feet, with the musket, pistol, or cutlass, with which he committed the murder, hung about his neck! and while he continues in that humble posture, one or more of the relations recite a panegyric on the dead, which sometimes rekindles the flames of revenge, and puts the poor prostrate in no small danger. It is the custom in some places for the offended party to threaten the criminal, holding all kind of arms to his throat, and after much entreaty, to consent at last to accept of his ransom. These pacifications cost dear in Albania; but the Morlacchi make up matters at a small expense; and everywhere the business is concluded with a feast at the offender's charge.

Loss of a Pig.

Mr. Robertson, in his 'Notes on Africa,' gives the following anecdote of the administration of justice in that uncivilized quarter of the globe.

'At Tantum, the mother of a child was attracted by its cries, which was caused by a pig having stolen something from it, of which it had been eating; as was natural, the woman struck the pig with a stick which happened to be near. This blow, the owner of the pig contended, caused its death; the affair, however, remained many years unnoticed; but it was at length brought forward, and urged with such vigour, that many persons were involved in it who were not born at the time the transaction took place. As the animal was a female, the damages were calculated at a higher rate; and the result was, that every-one connected by the most distant affinity with the unhappy mother, to the number of thirty-two, husband, children, and all that was most dear, were sold as a remuneration for the loss of a pig. The avarice of the chiefs, who received a proportion of the spoil, was only restrained when there was nothing more to be disposed of. The same monstrous practice is adopted on the loss of fowls; and the claims calculated in the same way; whole families have been sold for a single chicken.'

Delaware Indians.

In the year 1785, an Indian murdered a Mr. Evans at Pittsburg. When, after a confinement of several months, his trial was to be brought on, the chiefs of his nation (the Delaware) were invited to be present at the proceedings, and see how the trial would be conducted, as well as to speak in behalf of the accused, if they chose. These chiefs, however, instead of going as wished for, sent to the civil officers of that place the following laconic answer: 'Brethren! you inform us that N. N. who murdered one of your men at Pittsburg, is shortly to be tried by the laws of your country, at which trial you request that some of us may be present. Brethren! knowing N. N. to have been always a very bad man, we do not wish to see him. We therefore advise you to try him by your laws, and to hang him, so that he may never return to us again.'

Nadir-Shah.

A conspiracy was formed against the life of the celebrated Nadir-Shah, in which his son, Riza-Kouli-Mirza, whom he tenderly loved, acted a principal part. When Nadir's son, whose guilt was clearly proved, was brought before him, he addressed him with a tenderness which does honour to his character. 'Consider,' said he, 'that I am your general, your sovereign, your friend, your father. By all these titles I implore of you one sole favour; that is, to live to be happy, and to reign gloriously when it shall please Providence to bring my days to a close. You are entirely in my power; your fate depends on my will; but all that I ask of you is to abjure your animosity towards me, which is as unjust as it is inexplicable.'

But the heart of Riza-Kouli-Mirza was hardened, and he answered his father to his face:

'You are a tyrant; you merit death; and if the world is not already rid of you, it is no fault of mine. I fear you not. Do your worst. The worst is death, and death I brave.'

Mirza gave other proofs of determined disobedience; and according to the practice of the East, he had his eyes put out. Some days after the punishment, when brought into the presence of his father, he thus addressed him: 'You have indeed put out my eyes, but you have, at the same time, darkened the light of Persia.'

If Mirza had been animated by the impulse of a genuine spirit of patriotism, his conduct might in some degree excite our admiration; but the truth was, that he was a monster of obduracy and vice.

Winning a Loss.

In the canton of Schwitz, many years ago, a man named Frantz came one evening to Gaspard, who was working in his field, and said to him, 'Friend, it is now mowing time; we have a difference about a meadow, you know, and I have got the judges to meet at Schwitz, to determine the cause, since we cannot do it for ourselves; so you must come with me before them to-morrow.' 'You see, Frantz,' replied Gaspard, 'that I have mown all this field; I must get in this hay to-morrow; I cannot possibly leave it.' 'And,' rejoined Frantz, 'I cannot send away the judges now they have fixed the day; and besides, one ought to know whom the field belongs to before it is mown.' They disputed the matter some time; at length Gaspard said to Frantz, 'I will tell you how it shall be; go to-morrow to Schwitz, tell the judges both your reasons and mine, and then there will be no need for me to go.' 'Well,' said the other, 'if you choose to trust your cause to me, I will manage it as if it were my own.' Matters thus settled, Frantz went to Schwitz, and pleaded before the judges his own and Gaspard's cause as well as he could. When sentence was pronounced, Frantz returned to Gaspard. 'Gaspard,' said he, 'the field is yours; I congratulate you, neighbour; the judges have decided for you, and I am glad the affair is finished.' Frantz and Gaspard were friends ever after.

Benefits of Litigation.

The spirit of litigation was, perhaps, never carried to a greater extent, than in a cause between two eminent potters of Handley Green, Staffordshire, for a sum of *two pounds, nine shillings, and one penny*. After being in chancery eleven years, from 1749 to 1760, it was put an end to by John Morton and Randolph Wilbraham, Esquires, to whom it was referred when they determined that the complainant

ed his bill without any cause, and that he is indebted to the defendant, at the same time, the sum for which he had brought this action. This they ordered him to pay, with a thousand guineas of costs!

Erroneous Verdicts.

A circumstance happened at the Old Bailey sessions in 1777, which shows how cautious and well-informed it is necessary a jury should be in the discharge of their duty. A young man was tried for a capital felony, and through the inexperience of the foreman, a verdict was returned to the extreme of the charge. When the convicts were brought up to receive sentence, the court was thrown into a alarm by the Middlesex jury, who declared that they had resolved to find the prisoner guilty merely of the felony in stealing the tools, the punishment for which would not be away his life; that when they were deprecating upon the evidence, so far were they from any intention of finding the prisoner guilty of the capital charge, that they observed among themselves he was a very proper object for the ballast lighters. The recorder endeavoured to soften the rigour of the verdict, and to that purpose made a strict enquiry who was the cause of this egregious error; but it turned out that it belonged not to his province to comply with the compassionate wishes of the jury. The verdict was recorded, and the only method to save the poor fellow from the disgrace and horror of a legal death, was a petition from the jury to the king, which the recorder promised to deliver, and aid their attempt to mend the mistake. The prisoner seemed to be shocked exceedingly. When called upon to show cause why sentence should not be pronounced against him, he said, 'I never imagined I was found guilty of a capital offence, till I was fetched from the cell.' The petition, we need not say, had the desired effect.

During the assizes at Oxford, some years ago, a man was tried for some felony; the judge had charged the jury, and called on the foreman, a decent farmer, for a verdict. While the judge turned his head to speak to some person on the bench, the foreman of the jury, who had not paid any attention to the evidence, or the judge's charge, asked a stranger, the late Mr. Richard Lovell Edgeworth, who happened to sit behind him, what verdict he should give? Struck with the injustice and illegality of this procedure, Mr. Edgeworth stood up, and addressed the judges, Wills and Smith. 'My lords,' said he. 'Sit down, sir,' said the judge. 'My lord, I request to be heard for a moment.' The judge grew angry, and threatened to punish him for contempt of court if he persisted. By this time the eyes of the whole court were turned upon Mr. E., who feeling that he was in the right, still persevered. 'My lord,' said he, 'I must lay a circumstance before you which

has just happened.' The judge still thinking that he had some complaint to make of a private nature, ordered the sheriff to remove him; but while he was doing this, Mr. E. again addressed their lordships, and said, 'My lords, you will commit me if you think proper; but in the meantime I must declare, that the foreman of this jury is going to deliver an illegal verdict, for he has not paid any attention to the evidence, and he has asked me, who am not of the jury, what verdict he ought to give!' The judge then made an apology to Mr. E. for his hastiness, adding a few words of strong approbation.

Facetiæ.

When Lord Mansfield one day took his seat as Lord Chief Justice of England, a man was brought into court to receive judgment for an assault, of which he had been convicted. He wore remarkable large whiskers, and was known to be very proud of them. His affidavit stated that he was unable to pay any pecuniary fine, and the court was unwilling to imprison him. On this being intimated to Mr. Dunning, the counsel for the prosecution, he instantly replied, 'Then, if it please your lordship, we will consent to mulct him of his mustachoes, and humbly pray your lordship that he may be *shaved*!'

A highwayman, named Bolland, confined in Newgate, sent for a solicitor to know how he could defer his trial; and was answered, 'by getting an apothecary to make affidavit of his illness.' This was accordingly done in the following manner: 'The deponent verily believes, that if the said James Bolland is obliged to take his trial at the ensuing sessions, he will be in imminent danger of his life.' To which the learned judge on the bench answered, 'That he verily believed so too.' The trial was ordered to proceed immediately.

Murder will Out.

Mr. Martin, receiver of taxes at Bilguy, in France, having, in the year 1818, been out collecting the taxes, was returning home along the high road, when he was shot through the heart, at one o'clock in the afternoon. He had only one hundred francs about him, of which he was robbed, as well as of his watch and ring. The manner in which the murder was discovered, was extremely singular. The charge of the gun had been rammed down with a written paper; part of this wadding had been found, and carefully carried away with the body; the writing was still legible. On this piece of paper there were phrases which are used in glass manufactories, and a date of fifteen years previous. Upon this single indication the judge went to the owner of the glass manufactory at Bilguy, examined his books, and succeeded in finding an entry relative to the delivery of some glass,

of which the paper in question was the invoice. The suspicion immediately fell on the son-in-law of this individual; the latter had been out of the country for ten years. Orders were given to arrest the person suspected. When the officers came to him, he was on his knees praying. In his fright he confessed the deed; and even showed where the watch and ring were concealed, under the thatch of his house.

Found Goods.

It was one of the laws of Stagira, that 'no one should take up what he never laid down.' Biblus used to say, 'It was a kind of blossom of injustice to seize upon what was so found; and in the practice of his life, never was a man more scrupulously reserved in this respect.'

Innocent Sufferer.

About the year 1766, a young woman who lived servant with a person of very depraved habits in Paris, having rejected certain dishonourable proposals that he made her, became the object of his revenge. He clandestinely put into the box where she kept her clothes, several things belonging to himself and marked with his name: he then declared that he had been robbed, sent for a constable, and made his depositions. The box was opened, and he claimed several articles as belonging to him.

The poor girl being imprisoned, had only tears for her defence; and all that she said to the interrogatories was, that she was innocent. The judges, who in those days seldom scrutinized any case very deeply, pronounced her guilty, and she was condemned to be hanged. She was led to the scaffold, and very unskilfully executed, it being the first essay of the executioner's son in this horrid profession. A surgeon bought the body; and as he was preparing in the evening to dissect it, he perceived some remains of warmth; the knife dropped from his hand, and he put into bed the unfortunate woman he was going to dissect. His endeavours to restore her to life succeeded. At the same he sent for an ecclesiastic, with whose discretion and experience he was well acquainted, as well to consult him on this strange event, as to make him witness of his conduct.

When the unfortunate girl opened her eyes and saw the figure of the priest (who had features strongly marked) standing before her, she thought herself in the other world. She clasped her hands with terror, and exclaimed, 'Eternal Father! you know my innocence; have mercy on me!' She did not cease to invoke the ecclesiastic, and it was long before she could be convinced that she was not dead, so strongly had the idea of punishment and death impressed her imagination. Nothing could be more affecting or expressive than the exclamation of an innocent soul to Him whom she considered as her Supreme Judge. What a

picture for the painter! what a theme for the philosopher! what a lesson for judges!

The poor girl being recovered, quitted the house of the surgeon that night, and concealed herself in a distant village, while the base villain who had been the author of all her misery remained unpunished.

Feudal Justice.

By the side of a small fountain near the house of Glengarry, in the highlands of Scotland, a pyramidal monument is to be seen, on the top of which are represented seven heads, with hideous distortion of feature, clutched by the hair in an enormous hand, a sword in which appears as if it had been the instrument of their decollation. On the four sides of the pyramid there is written, in Gaelic, English, French, and Latin, the following inscription:--

In Memory

OF THE PROMPT AND SIGNAL
VENGEANCE

WHICH THE ORDERS OF LORD MACDONELL
AND AROSS

DIRECTED ACCORDING TO THE RAPID
COURSE OF

FEUDAL JUSTICE,
INFLECTED

ON THE AUTHORS OF THE HORRIBLE
ASSASSINATION OF

THE KEPPOCH FAMILY,

A BRANCH

OF THE POWERFUL AND ILLUSTRIOUS CLAN,
OF WHICH

HIS LORDSHIP WAS THE
CHIEFTAIN,

This Monument is Erected

BY

COLONEL M'DONELL GLENGARRY,
HIS SUCCESSOR

AND

REPRESENTATIVE,

THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 1812.

THE HEADS OF THE SEVEN MURDERERS WERE
BROUGHT

TO THE FEET

OF

THE NOBLE CHIEFTAIN

IN

THE HOUSE OF GLENGARRY,

AFTER HAVING BEEN WASHED IN THAT
FOUNTAIN:

AND SINCE THAT EVENT, WHICH TOOK PLACE
IN THE FIRST YEARS OF THE SIXTEENTH
CENTURY, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN
KNOWN BY THE NAME OF

The Fountain of Heads.

The seven individuals were, it appears, beheaded without any form of trial; circumstances pointed them out as the authors of the crime; and without more ado the chieftain

ve orders to his satellites to bring him their ads. 'May my feeble voice,' says a French traveller, M. Dupin, 'make known this in- nuous monument from one end of Europe to the other' and may people feel what differ- ence there is between the arbitrary sen- tences, the prompt, the glorious extermina- tions of feudal times, and the constitutional arguments of free juries.'

Female Pleading.

The Athenians had a law, that no woman could be permitted to plead her own cause. It had its origin from a case in which the cele- brated Phryne was concerned. Afraid of losing her defence to any hired advocate, she appeared in her own behalf; and such is said to have been the enchanting effect of her personal beauty on the judges, that contrary evidence they pronounced her guilt-

In modern times men have learned to be less susceptible in themselves, and more just to- wards the sex; and since women must be pro- secuted at times, we do not add to their com- parative helplessness by depriving them of any means of defence with which nature may have provided them.

The right of pleading for themselves in courts of justice is one, however, of which males in modern times have rarely availed themselves; and there is one instance of recent occurrence which shows that a woman may achieve for herself what no male advocate could do in all human probability, and that not by the meretricious influence of personal charms, but by sound argument and common sense. The instance to which we allude is that of Miss Tucker, tried at Exeter assizes for a libel. The lady pleaded her own cause, and in a way so contrary to what the lawyers all practice (*their practice*), as greatly to ex- cite the compassion of the judge, who more than once interfered to remind the fair pleader how little she was speaking to the purpose, mixing with his admonitions an expression of regret that she had not entrusted her defence to some gentleman of the bar, who would have shown how to conduct it! Miss T. (obstinate woman!) was not to be turned from her own way; she had nothing to gain by mere de- ference to the opinion of the judge; all she wanted, all she hoped for, and all she was striving for, was to gain her own cause. The judge (charitable in vain!) abandoned her to her fate; and when she had done 'talking to no purpose,' charged the jury in a sense by no means favourable to her acquittal. The jury brought in a verdict of *not guilty*.

Allegiance.

When King John took possession of his brother's dominions, and confirmed his usurpa- tion by the murder of his nephew Arthur, Philip Augustus, King of France, summoned him to his vassal to the court of his peers. John

demanding a safe conduct. 'Willingly,' said Philip, 'let him come unmolested.' 'And return?' inquired the English envoy. 'If the judgment of his peers permit him,' replied the king; 'for by all the saints in France, he shall not return unless acquitted.' The Bishop of Ely still remonstrated that the Duke of Nor- mandy could not come without the King of Eng- land, they being the same person; nor would the barons of the country permit their sovereign to run the hazard of death or imprisonment. 'What of that, my Lord Bishop?' cried Philip: 'it is well known that my vassal, the Duke of Normandy, acquired England by violence; but if a subject attains any accession of dignity, shall his paramount lord therefore lose his rights?' John, not appearing to his summons, was declared guilty of felony, and his fiefs confiscated. Philip poured his troops into Normandy, and in two years that province, with Maine and Anjou, were irrecoverably lost to the crown of England.

Defamation.

Charondas, the legislator of the Thurians, enacted that every person guilty of calumny should be led through the streets with a crown of tamarind on his head, to notify to the public that he had arrived at the last degree of male- volence. Many against whom this mortifying sentence had been denounced, prevented its execution by suicide. The security of the law made the crime very rare, and greatly promoted the tranquillity and happiness of the state.

Alfred of England had a law against slander more severe; but not attended, we believe, with quite so good an effect, owing doubtless to its being imperfectly administered, '*Qui falsi rumoris in vulgus sparsi auctor est lingua præciditor.*'

By the laws of the Goths, whilst in Spain, it was made penal to say of a great man that he was gouty; they thought it, we presume, hard enough that a man should have to suffer such a torment without being twitted about it.

Banishment from the Presence.

One of the French parliaments condemned a person of the name of Aujay, for having insulted a lady of quality, to withdraw him- self from all places in which she should appear under pain of some severe punish- ment.

Madame Montbason received from the Queen of Austria a similar sentence, for having in like manner offended the Princess of Condé.

Witchcraft.

A belief in witchcraft was universal through- out Europe till the sixteenth century, and even maintained its ground with tolerable firmness till the middle of the seventeenth.

Vast numbers of reputed witches were condemned to death every year. As late as the time of the civil wars, upwards of eighty were hanged in Suffolk, on the accusation of Hopkins, the witch finder.

In the eighteenth volume of the 'Statistical Account of Scotland,' there is a most curious account of the trial of two witches, William Coke, and Alison Dick, in Kirkaldy, in 1636. The evidence on which they were condemned is absolutely ridiculous; they were however burnt for witchcraft. The following is an account of the expenses to which the town and kirk session were put on this occasion:

<i>Imprimis.</i> To Mr. James Miller, when he sent to Pres-towe for a man to try them	£2	7	0
<i>Item.</i> To the man of Culross (the executioner) when he went away the first time	0	12	0
<i>Item.</i> In purchasing the commission	9	3	0
<i>Item.</i> For coals for the witches	1	4	0
<i>Item.</i> For one to go to Finmouth for the laird to sit upon the assize as judge	0	6	0
<i>Item.</i> For harden to be jumps to them	3	10	0
<i>Item.</i> For making of them	0	8	0
Summa for the kirk's part (Scots)	£17	10	0

The town's part of the expenses debursed extraordinarily upon William Coke and Alison Dick:

<i>Imprimis.</i> Forten loads of coals to burn them, five merks	£3	6	8
<i>Item.</i> For a tar barrel, 14f.	0	14	0
<i>Item.</i> For towes	0	0	0
<i>Item.</i> To him that brought the executioner	2	18	0
<i>Item.</i> To the executioner for his pains	8	14	0
<i>Item.</i> For his expenses here	0	16	4
<i>Item.</i> For one to go to Finmouth for the laird	0	6	0
Summa town part (Scots)	£17	1	0
Both	34	11	0
Or (Sterling)	2	17	7

The methods of discovering witches were various. One was to weigh the supposed criminal against the church Bible, which, if she was guilty, would outweigh her; another, to make her attempt to say the Lord's Prayer; this no witch was able to repeat entirely, but would omit some part or other of it. A witch could not weep more than three tears, and that only out of the left eye. This want of tears was by the witch finders, and even by the judges, considered as a very decisive proof of guilt. Swimming a witch was another kind of popular ordeal generally practised. For this, the unhappy individual was stripped naked, and cross bound, the right thumb to the left toe, and the left thumb to the right toe. Thus prepared, she was thrown into a pond or

river, in which, if guilty, she *could not sink*; for having by her compact with the devil, renounced the benefit of the water baptism, that element in its turn renounced her, and refused to receive her in its bosom!

It cannot fail to be remarked, of all these modes of punishment, that they are extremely favourable to the accused, and appear as if they had been devised by some persons who, superior to the darkness of the times in which they lived, resorted to these ingenious expedients to give a harmless turn to a folly which they could not cure. It is to be regretted, indeed, that they were not as generally used as from their humanity they deserved to be; for we see from the old records, that thousands of unfortunate creatures, chiefly women, were notwithstanding, on the accusation of children, old women, and fools, condemned for witchcraft and burned at the stake.

The latest general frenzy of this sort occurred in New England about the year 1692, when a thirst for denouncing and executing persons for witchcraft became so general, that, invading all the charities of private life, it proved as wasteful as even the sword or the pestilence. The mania rose at last to so hideous and intolerable a height, that the government, to save the people from utter extermination, ordered all prosecutions for witchcraft to be dropped, and the prisoners to be set at liberty. It was remarked, not without wonder, that as soon as the power of prosecuting was at an end, all reports of witchcraft ceased.

In Europe generally at the present day, a belief in witchcraft is still not wholly eradicated from the minds of the vulgar; as has been too well evinced by several melancholy instances, in which, no longer able to satiate their fury under the mask of law, persons have taken the work of vengeance in their own hands, and have in their turn been justly punished for it.

At Wingrove, in Hertfordshire, so recently as the year 1759, a case occurred of the old popular trial by weighing against the church Bible, which as one of the last curious relics of this sort of justice, may be worth relating. One Susannah Hannokes, an elderly woman, was accused by a neighbour of being a witch, and the overt-act offered in proof was, that she had bewitched this said neighbour's spinning wheel, so that she could not make it go round either one way or the other! The complaining party offered to make oath of the fact before a magistrate; on which the husband of the poor woman, in order to justify his wife, insisted that she should be tried by the Church Bible, and that the accuser should be present. The woman was accordingly conducted by her husband to their ordeal, attended by a great concourse of people, who flocked to the parish church to witness the ceremony. Being stript of nearly all her clothes, she was put into one scale and the Bible into another, when, to the no small astonishment and mortification of her accuser, she actually outweighed it, and was honourably acquitted of the charge.

Informer fitly Rewarded.

When General Pichegru entered Maestricht, he experienced some difficulty in obtaining quarters for his troops. A merchant who considered himself very patriotic, called on him, and gave him a list of *Orangists* who had soldiers quartered on them, though not in sufficient numbers, in the opinion of this demagogue, who wished that the aristocrats should have their houses filled with troops, from the cellar to the garret. 'I am obliged to you for this information,' said Pichegru; 'and have they sent you any soldiers, citizen?' 'Yes, general.' 'How many?' 'Four.' 'That will do.' The merchant had no sooner returned home, than forty more soldiers arrived, and took possession of his house. He hastened back to the general, and informed him that some mistake had taken place. 'Oh, no,' said Pichegru, 'I only removed my men from those vile *Orangists*, who I knew would ill-treat them, to place them in the house of a patriot like you, where I am sure they will be received hospitably.'

Speaking for Time.

The most successful, if not the most eloquent, effort that Mr. Curran made at the bar, was in the defence of Patrick Finney, who was tried for high treason in 1798. It was also the most important, since the fate of fifteen other persons depended on it. The principal witness on this trial was the informer, James O'Brien, whose subsequent crimes rendered him so notorious in Ireland. This fellow had extorted money by assuming the character of a revenue officer, and Mr. Curran, with great skill, contrived to make him develop his own character to the jury, in the course of a very curious cross-examination. But this was not sufficient; a witness necessary to prove O'Brien's perjury, lived a few miles from Dublin; and in order to afford time for his being brought, it was agreed by Mr. Curran, that his colleague, Mr. McNally, should commence the prisoner's defence, and continue speaking as long as he could find a syllable to say. This he did with great ability until he was exhausted, and the evening so far advanced, that the court consented to a temporary adjournment; and before it resumed its sitting, the material witness arrived.

Noureddin of Aleppo.

Noureddin, who was lord of the powerful state of Aleppo during the twelfth century, though the greatest Mussulman of the age, was as simple in his dress as the meanest peasant. In his reign, the laws were so well administered, that Damascus was crowded with strangers. The public revenues were never disturbed by the king, except in the presence of the doctors of the law; and so small a portion did he reserve for the support of his dignity, that his queen complained of his parsimony: but he replied, 'I fear God,

and am no more than the treasurer of the Moslems. Their property I cannot alienate; but I still possess three shops in the City of Hems: these you may take, and these alone I can bestow.' In every part of his dominions, he built mosques and hospitals, and places of refreshment for travellers. The ascetic too might find a convent, and the studious a school. But the most beneficent of all his institutions was a tribunal for the redress of wrongs which emirs and governors had committed on their subjects. Power acknowledged the dignity of genius; for men of learning were so much the objects of his attention, that he arose to meet them, and never required them to observe the Asiatic custom of standing in the presence of the sovereign.

Improbable, yet True.

In the reign of Charles the Second, a French refugee of the name of Du Moulin was tried for coining, and never perhaps was evidence from circumstances more conclusive of a man's guilt. It was proved beyond all doubt that he had been often detected in uttering false gold; and that he had even made a practice of returning counterfeit coins to persons from whom he had received money, pretending that they were among the pieces which had been paid him. When the officers of justice went to arrest him and search his premises they found a great number of counterfeit coins in a drawer by themselves; others packed along with good money in different parcels; some aqua-regia, several files, a pair of moulds, and many other implements for coining.

Du Moulin solemnly denied the charge. The bad money, he said, 'which was found in a heap, he had thrown together, because he could not trace the person from whom he had received it; the other parcels of money he had kept separate, in order that he might know to whom to apply, should any of it prove bad; as to the implements of coining, he knew nothing of them, and could not possibly account for their being found where they were.' A likely story truly! So thought the jury, and so whispered every person who heard it. Du Moulin was found guilty, and received sentence of death.

A few days before Du Moulin was to be executed, a person of the name of Williams, a seal engraver, met with his death by an accident; his wife miscarried from the fright, and sensible she could not live, she sent for the wife of Du Moulin, and revealed to her that Williams, her husband, had been one of four whom she named, who had for many years lived by counterfeiting gold coin; that one of these persons had hired himself as a servant to Du Moulin: and being provided by the gang with false keys, had disposed of very considerable sums of money, by opening his master's escritoire, and leaving the pieces there instead of an equal number of good ones which he took out.' The wife of Williams

appeared in great agony of mind while she gave the account, and as soon as it was finished, fell into convulsions and expired.

The parties she had named were, on the information of Madame du Moulin, instantly apprehended, and after a short time one of them turned king's evidence. The one who had been servant to Du Moulin persisted in asserting his innocence, until some corroborating circumstances were produced, so unexpected and decisive, that he burst into tears, and acknowledged his guilt. On being asked how the instruments for coining came into his master's *escritoire*, he replied, 'that when the officers came to apprehend his master, he was terrified lest they should be found in his (the servant's) possession, and hastened to his box in which they were deposited, opened the *escritoire* with his false key, and had just time to shut it before the officers entered the apartment.'

Du Moulin was of course pardoned, and the servant and his associates most deservedly suffered in his stead.

Musarabic Liturgy.

A question was agitated in Spain, in the eleventh century, whether the Musarabic liturgy and ritual, which had been used in the churches of Spain, or that approved by the see of Rome, which differed in many particulars from the other, contained the form of worship most acceptable to the Deity? The Spaniards contended zealously for the ritual of their ancestors. The Popes urged them to receive that to which they had given their infallible sanction. A violent contest arose. The nobles proposed to decide the controversy by the sword. The king approved of this method of decision. Two knights in complete armour entered the lists. John Ruys de Matanca, the champion of the Musarabic liturgy, was victorious. But the queen, and the Archbishop of Toledo, who favoured the other form, insisted on having the matter submitted to another trial, which was granted. A great fire was kindled. A copy of each liturgy was thrown into the flames; and it was agreed that the book which stood this proof, and remained untouched, should be received in all the churches of Spain. The Musarabic liturgy triumphed likewise upon this trial; for if we may believe Roderigo de Toledo, remained unhurt by the fire, when the other was reduced to ashes. The queen and archbishop had power or art to elude this decision also; and the use of the Musarabic liturgy was permitted only in certain churches—a determination no less extraordinary than the whole transaction.

Extraordinary Imposture.

In the year 1580, a bill of complaint was prepared before the criminal judge of Rieux, in France, by a woman of the name of Bertrand de Rols, whose cause of grievance was

of the following extraordinary nature. She said that she had at an early age been married to one Martin Guerre, who after living with her about ten years, had deserted her, and gone no one knew whither; that at the end of eight years a man came who had so exactly the features, stature, and complexion of Martin Guerre, that she had taken him for her true husband; and had unsuspectingly lived with him as such for the space of three years, during which she had two children by him; that to her surprise she now found out, that the man was not the real Martin Guerre, but one Arnaud du Tilh, of Sagias, commonly called Pansette, who had artfully taken the advantage of his resemblance to her husband, to impose himself upon her; and besides usurping the conjugal rights of Martin Guerre, had obtained possession of all the property that belonged to him.

In answer to this strange story, the man said to be Arnaud du Tilh, protested that the prosecution was nothing more than a wicked conspiracy which his wife and relations had hatched to get rid of him; that if he was not the real Martin Guerre, he did not know who he was; that he had had this name as far back as he could remember; that it was he who had married when a youth the complainant, Bertrand de Rols, and had lived with her so many years; that not only she had received him on his return with all the warmth of a loving and affectionate wife, but that all the family of the Guerres, and among others, four sisters, had instantly and gladly recognised him as their own long-lost Martin Guerre.

The judge made both parties undergo a severe personal examination, first separately, and then in presence of each other; and the answers of the man were on every point, even of the most minute and private description, such as, in all human belief, none but the real Martin Guerre could have given.

Witnesses were then examined to the number of nearly one hundred and fifty. Of these, between thirty and forty, including the four sisters, swore that he was the true Martin Guerre: that they had known him and conversed with him from his infancy; that they were perfectly acquainted with his person, manners, and tone of voice; and that they were moreover convinced of the truth of what they asserted, by certain scars and secret marks, which it was impossible for time to efface. A great many, on the contrary, swore quite as positively that he was no other than Arnaud du Tilh, called Pansette, and they had known him as long, and been as familiarly acquainted with him, as those who pretended that he was Martin Guerre. The rest of the witnesses declared, that there was so strong a resemblance between the two persons in question, that it was impossible for them to determine whether the accused was Martin Guerre, or Arnaud du Tilh.

The judge on weighing the whole case, inclined to the belief that the man was not the real Martin Guerre, but Arnaud du Tilh, and condemned him as a wretched impostor, to suffer the punishment of death.

From this sentence the accused appealed to the parliament of Toulouse, who ordered an inquisition to be taken as to the principal facts in dispute, with this limitation, that none but new witnesses should be examined. But so far was this ordinance from eliciting any new lights, that it served only to render the affair still more obscure than it was before. Of thirty new witnesses examined, nine or ten were positive that he was the true Martin Guerre; seven or eight were as positive that he was Arnaud du Tilh; the rest having weighed all circumstances, and being afraid of injuring their consciences, declared plainly that they were not able to say who he was.

Among the witnesses who negatived most positively his identity with Martin Guerre, was a shoemaker who used to make shoes for Martin: he deposed that Martin's foot reached to the twelfth mark, whereas the foot of the accused reached no farther than the ninth mark upon his rule. Another witness swore that Martin Guerre was dexterous in wrestling, of which this man did not pretend to know anything.

But on the other hand, among those who had formerly sworn that he was the true Martin Guerre, and still persisted in their depositions, were the four sisters of Martin, who were all brought up with him, and who all had the reputation of being women of good sense; two of the brothers-in-law of Martin; and all the parties who were present at the nuptials of Martin and Bertrand de Rols. All, or at least the greater part of these witnesses, agreed that Martin Guerre had two scars under his eyebrow, that his left eye was bloodshot, the nail of his first finger crooked, that he had three warts on his right hand, and another on his little finger; and all of these peculiarities were to be found on the accused.

The parliament began now to incline to the part of the accused, and had thoughts of reversing the judgment of the inferior judge, when of a sudden, as if he had dropped out of the clouds, a man calling himself the true Martin Guerre, but with a wooden leg, appeared. He asserted that he came from Spain, where he had lost his leg in battle; and that the person who had assumed his name had been his companion in arms, and had thus doubtless got so well acquainted with all the particulars of his private history.

He was interrogated by the court as to the same facts on which the accused had been questioned. All his answers were true, yet they were neither so clear, so positive, nor so exact, as those given by the accused. He was next confronted with the supposed Arnaud, when the latter treated him as an impostor, as a fellow picked out by his relations to support this character, and take away his life. The accused, to make this the clearer, asked him a number of questions, as to several family transactions; and these he answered faintly and with some confusion. The court on this directed Arnaud to withdraw, and then put several questions to the Martin with one leg, that were new, and had never been asked before; and his answers were very full and satisfac-

tory. They then called Arnaud, and questioned him as to the same points; but to the great surprise and confusion of the court, the answers of Arnaud were not only as full and satisfactory as those of Martin, but perfectly corresponded with them.

The court, resolving to clear up this unaccountable obscurity, directed that now both the pretenders being present; the four sisters of Martin Guerre; the husbands of two of them; Peter Guerre, an uncle; the brothers of Arnaud du Tilh, and some of those witnesses who were most obstinate in insisting that the accused was Martin Guerre, should be called in and obliged to point out which of the two they should now judge to be the true Martin. Accordingly all these persons appeared, except the brothers of Arnaud du Tilh. The first who drew near the two persons claiming the name of Martin Guerre, was the eldest of the sisters, who after she had looked upon them for a moment, ran to the Martin with the wooden leg, embraced him, and having let fall a shower of tears, addressed herself to the commissioners in these words: 'See, gentlemen,' said she, 'my brother Martin Guerre. I acknowledge the error into which this wretched man (pointing to Arnaud) drew me and many others, and in which, by a multitude of artifices, he has made us persist so long.' Martin all this time mingled his tears with those of his sister, and received her embraces with the utmost affection. All the rest knew him as soon as they saw him; and there was not one of all the witnesses who did not acknowledge that the matter was now plain, and that Arnaud du Tilh was an impostor.

No doubt now remaining as to the guilt of Arnaud, the court condemned him to death, and he was executed accordingly in front of Martin Guerre's house, testifying his sincere repentance for the extraordinary course of imposture in which he had been engaged.

'An Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth.'

Mr. Andrew Layton was the principal partner in a house of considerable capital and respectability at Mogadore. One afternoon in the year 1802, he went out on horseback, accompanied by two or three gentlemen, with some greyhounds, and on his return towards Mogadore, one of the dogs attacked a calf belonging to a neighbouring village: a Shelluh, who was the owner of the calf, shot the dog; on this a fray ensued, and the village was soon in an uproar; in the scuffle, some Shelluh women were seen to throw stones, and one of the party (M. Barré) was considerably bruised; Layton also gave and received several blows. The party returned to Mogadore, when Mr. Layton immediately made a complaint to the governor, who promised him justice should be done. The governor accordingly sent for the villagers, who on their part insisted on satisfaction being awarded to them, alleging that a woman had had two of her teeth knocked out

by Layton, and in the name of God and the Prophet, they appealed for justice to the emperor himself. This appeal obliged the governor to write to the emperor, and the parties were ordered up to Morocco. Witnesses were then adduced against Layton, who declared that he had knocked the woman's teeth out with the thick end of his whip; and the emperor was pleased to order two of his teeth to be pulled out, as a satisfaction to the lady for the loss of hers. His majesty however did not appear disposed to put the sentence in execution; but the people, who had assembled in immense numbers on the occasion, exclaimed loudly for retaliation. When the tooth-drawer approached, Mr. Layton requested that he might have two of his back teeth taken out in lieu of two of his front teeth, which request the emperor granted. His majesty was pleased with the courage with which Layton suffered the operation, and next day he apologized to him for the injury, saying, that he would not have allowed the sentence of the law to have been executed, had it not been necessary to allay the fury of the people. He then desired him to ask any favour, and he would grant it. Mr. Layton accordingly requested permission to load a cargo of wheat, which was granted; and, we believe, free of duty. His majesty afterwards conferred upon him similar favours. Some general remonstrance was made by all the European consuls collectively respecting this affair, and the emperor, it appeared, would have made a proper apology to the British consul, had it been demanded with energy and resolution; which on some account or other was not done. The influence of Great Britain suffered by not supporting her subject; and ever since this transaction, encroachments have been making on the privileges of Europeans.

Phalaris's Bull.

Perillus, an Athenian, cast a brazen bull for Phalaris, the tyrant of Sicily, which was so constructed, that when it was heated and offenders put into it, their cries seemed not like those of human beings, but like the roarings of a bull. When he went to Phalaris, in the hope of being nobly recompensed for so admirable a refinement of cruelty, the tyrant, just for once, ordered him to be thrown into the bull, in order that he might show the excellence of his own invention. Whence Ovid,

*'Et Phalaris tauro violenti membra Perilli
Torruit, infelix imbuat autior opus.'*

Perillus, roasted in the bull he made,
Gave the first proof of his own cruel trade.

Protection of Sanctuaries.

Eutropius, the minion and favourite of Arcadius the emperor, was the first who introduced a law that any guilty person might be taken out of a sanctuary by force; and it is remarkable, that he himself fell a victim to his

own law. Being accused of a conspiracy against the emperor, he was sentenced to death, but fled to the temple or sanctuary, from which, by virtue of his own law, he was dragged out and slain.

Conscience.

A follower of Pythagoras had bought a pair of shoes from a cobbler, for which he promised to pay him on a future day. He went with his money on the day appointed, but found that the cobbler had in the interval departed this life. Without saying anything of his errand, he withdrew, secretly rejoicing at the opportunity thus unexpectedly afforded him of gaining a pair of shoes for nothing. His conscience, however, says Seneca, would not suffer him to remain quiet under such an act of injustice; so, taking up the money, he returned to the cobbler's shop, and, casting in the money, said, 'Go thy ways, for though he is dead to all the world besides, yet he is alive to me.'

Punishment in Kind.

Early in the fifteenth century, a band of Highland robbers, headed by one Macdonald of Rosse, having taken two cows from a poor woman, she vowed that she would wear no shoes till she had complained to the king. The savages, in ridicule of her oath, nailed horse-shoes to the soles of her feet. When her wounds were healed, she proceeded to the royal presence, told her story, and showed her scars. The just monarch instantly despatched an armed force to secure M'Donald, who was brought to Perth, along with twelve of his associates. The king caused them all to be shod in the same manner as they had done by the poor woman; and after they had been for three days exhibited through the streets of the town as a public spectacle, M'Donald was beheaded, and his companions hung.

Trial by Ordeal.

In the dark ages of Modern Europe, the absurd practice of trial by ordeal was held in high esteem. The chief modes were by fire, by water, by walking blindfold among heated ploughshares, and by swallowing consecrated bread. The last, styled by Muratori the *judicium panis et casei*, and introduced about the time of Pope Eugene, was simple enough. A piece of bread or cheese of about an ounce in weight was blessed by the priest, and given to the accused person, who was to try and swallow it, after first praying of the Almighty that it might choke him, cause convulsions, paleness, &c., if he were guilty.

Blackstone remarks, that the remembrance of this custom still subsists in certain phrases of the common people, as 'May this morsel

e my last; 'May I be choked if it is so,' and the like. The custom was evidently borrowed from the Mosaic law, in which we find particularly prescribed. An example of its practice occurs in the New Testament, in the story of Ananias and Sapphira.

Among the most remarkable trials by ordeal in our ancient history, was that of Queen Emma. The charges against her were preferred by Robert, Archbishop of Canterbury. She was accused both of consenting to the death of her son Alfred, and of preparing poison for her son Edward (the Confessor) also. Edward listened to those charges, and his mother, according to the law of the land, claimed the ordeal, or trial by burning ploughshares. The Queen Dowager, on the night preceding the trial, prayed for help in the Abbey of St. Swithune, at Winchester; and she passed the nine ploughshares unhurt. Her innocence being held to be thus established, the king seems to have been enjoined penance for his credulity, and the archbishop to have fled the kingdom; compelled either by the law which held him to be a false accuser, or by the odium of his reputed guilt, or probably by the persecutions of the Queen Dowager's friends.

A mode of trial for murder got into vogue at a no very late period, which is, perhaps, quite as absurd as any we have mentioned. When a person was murdered, it was said that at the touch or on the approach of the murderer, blood would gush out of the body. In various parts of Europe, this was actually held as an undoubted proof of guilt; and with the vulgar it is still a very prevailing article of belief, that murder in this way is sure to be found out. Beard says, that the practice originated in the following occurrence:—

'Certain gentlemen in Denmark being on an evening together in an inn, fell out amongst themselves, and from words went to blows; the candles being put out in this blind fray, one of them was stabbed by a poniard. The murderer was unknown by reason of the number, although the gentlemen accused a pursuivant of the king's of it, who was one of them in the room. Christernus the Second, then king, to find out the homicide, caused them all to come together in the room; and standing round about the dead corpse, he commanded that they should one after another lay their right hand on the slain gentleman's naked breast, swearing they had not killed him. The gentlemen did so, and no sign appeared to witness against them: the pursuivant only remained, who (condemned before in his own conscience) went first of all and kissed the dead man's feet; but as soon as he laid his hand on his breast, the blood gushed forth in great abundance, both out of his wound and nostrils, so that urged by this evident accusation, he confessed the murder, and by the king's own sentence, was immediately beheaded. Hereupon arose that practice which is now ordinary in many places) of finding out unknown murderers, which, by the admirable power of God, are for the most

part revealed, either by the bleeding of the corpse, or the opening of its eyes, or some other extraordinary sign as daily experience teaches.'

Of the marvellous efficacy of this sign the same author obliges us with the following, among other equally veritable proofs.

Henry Renzovius, Lieutenant to the King of Denmark in the dukedom of Holsatia, in a letter of his to David Chytreus, writes thus: 'A traveller was found murdered in the highway, near to Itzeho in Denmark; and because the murderer was unknown, the magistrates of the place caused one of the hands of him that was slain to be cut off, and hung up by a string on the top of the room in the tower prison. About *ten years after*, the murderer coming upon some occasion into the prison, the hand that had been there a long time dry, began to drop blood upon the table that stood underneath it, which the gaoler beholding, stayed the fellow, and gave notice of it to the magistrates; who examining him, the murderer confessed his guilt, and submitted himself to the rigour of the law, which was inflicted on him, as he well deserved.'

Among the Hindoos of the present day, the trial by ordeal is held in the same reverence which it was by the ancient Europeans, and is practised with much greater variety. One of their most singular ordeals is the trial by balance, which is thus performed. The accused is placed in a pair of scales and carefully weighed; he is then taken down, when the pundits write the substance of the accusation against him on a piece of paper, which they stick on his forehead. At the end of six minutes he is weighed again, when, if lighter than before, he is pronounced innocent; if heavier, guilty. Another of their ordeals is literally a casting of lots. Two images of gods, one of silver and one of iron, are thrown into a large earthen jar; or two pictures of a deity, one on white and the other on black cloth, are rolled up and thrown into a jar; if the accused on putting in his hand draws out the silver image or the white picture, he is deemed innocent; if the contrary, guilty.

Wager of Battle.

Of the absurdity of the ancient practice of determining doubtful accusations by single combat, we have abundance of instances on record, but we meet with none more distressing than the following, which occurred between two Scotch gentlemen in the reign of Edward VI., in which 'the villain triumphed, and the injured fell.' It arose out of the war which originated in the refusal of the Scotch to consummate a marriage of Mary their young Queen, with Edward VI., according to the contract made in the reign of her father. The Scotch lost a number of strongholds, and among others the castle of Yester, which surrendered to the English general, Lord Grey, on condition that he should spare the lives of all the garrison with the exception of

one man, who was reported to have said some unpardonable things of the King of England. 'Now,' say the old chroniclers, 'as the garrison marched out of the castle in their shirts, and made their most humble obeisance, as became them, to the Lord Grey, he caused very strict search to be made for the base railer, who was excepted from pardon, and he was found to be one Mr. Newton, a native of Scotland.

'This man, finding the great danger he was in, bethought himself of no other way to save his life, than by throwing the accusation upon one Mr. Hamilton: now these two gentlemen charging each other with the fact, the general could find no other way to decide it than by combat, which they demanded; and the Lord Grey assenting thereto, judgment was pronounced to have it tried; and this he was the more induced to agree to, because all persons seemed resolute for the decision of the truth; as in a very just cause, by the loss of their lives to gain an immortal name, according to that line,

'Mors spernenda viris, ut fama perennis alatur.'

'No time was lost in making due preparation for this combat: so that the champions entered the lists at the appointed time, which were erected for that end in the market-place of Hadington; having only their doublets and hose on, and armed with sword, buckler, and dagger. Hamilton, at his first entrance into the lists, kneeling down, put up hearty prayers to God Almighty, that he would be pleased to vindicate the truth, and grant him victory over his enemy; and at the same time he made most solemn protestations, that he never spoke any such words against the King of England as his adversary charged upon him. On the other side, Newton seemed as if he had been daunted with his false accusation; and the generality of the spectators entertained an opinion of his guilt to his prejudice. Be it as it will, both of them being ready, they fell busily to it, and exchanged several fierce blows. Hamilton, in the opinion of all the people, seeming to rely upon his innocence, laid stoutly about, and forced his adversary to retreat almost to the end of the lists; to which, if he had quite driven him, he had, by the law of arms, won the victory. Newton, finding himself thus upon the point of being worsted, advanced again, and gave Hamilton such a great gash in the leg, that he was not able to stand any longer, but down he dropped, and Newton falling upon him, presently slew him with his dagger.

'There were several gentlemen there present, who taking it for granted that Newton was the offender, thought fortune had favoured him in the combat, who would readily have ventured their lives against him, man for man, if the general would have allowed it; but Newton laying claim to the law of arms, the Lord Grey not only gave him the benefit of it, but also presented him with his own gown, besides his own backplate, and a gold plate which he wore at the time. Thus,' adds the historian, 'he was well

rewarded, whatever his desert might be; but he did not come off so, for riding afterwards on the borders of both kingdoms, he was there slain, and cut in pieces.'

Peine Forte et Dure.

The horrid punishment of pressing to death, which the English law imposes on persons standing mute when put on their trial, was frequently inflicted in former times, and some instances of it are even to be met with of as late a date as the reign of George II.

At the Kilkenny assizes, in 1740, one Mathew Ryan was tried for highway robbery. When he was apprehended, he pretended to be a lunatic, stripped himself in the gaol, threw away his clothes, and could not be prevailed on to put them on again, but went as he was to the court to take his trial. He then affected to be dumb, and would not plead; on which the judges ordered a jury to be impaneled, to enquire and give their opinion whether he was mute and lunatic by the hand of God, or, wilfully so. The jury returned in a short time, and brought in a verdict of 'Wilful and affected dumbness and lunacy.' The judges on this desired the prisoner to plead; but he still pretended to be insensible to all that was said to him. The law now called for the *peine forte et dure*; but the judges compassionately deferred awarding it until a future day, in the hope that he might in the meantime acquire a juster sense of his situation. When again brought up, however, the criminal persisted in his refusal to plead: and the court at last pronounced the dreadful sentence, that he should *be pressed to death*. This sentence was accordingly executed upon him two days after, in the public market-place of Kilkenny. As the weights were heaping on the wretched man, he earnestly supplicated to be hanged; but it being beyond the power of the sheriff to deviate from the mode of punishment prescribed in the sentence, even this was an indulgence which could no longer be granted to him.

In England, the latest instance we believe of a similar kind occurred in a case where Baron Thompson presided as judge. It is an odious and revolting mode of satisfying public justice; yet is only a necessary adjunct of that fondness of capital punishments which pervades, and is a stain to the whole of the English penal code.

Culpable Homicide.

Hobbes thinks it a great singularity and severity in the laws of England, that if a man intending to steal deer (a case put by Sir Edward Coke) shoots at a buck, and the arrow glances on a bystander, this should be deemed murder, as being the consequence of the felonious act in which the man was engaged. He asks, if a boy stealing apples from a tree falls upon the head of a person

under it, and kills him, whether this should be considered as murder?

There also puts a very singular case of murder. A man with a sword in his hand and my purse on the highway, when I have not twelve pence in my pocket : may I may lawfully kill. To another never £100 to hold whilst I alight, which he refuses to restore to me, and draws his sword to defend possession of it by force, if I attempt to retake it. The mischief this man does me is a hundred, or probably a thousand times more than the other perhaps intended me (whom I killed before he did me any, yet I may lawfully kill the one, and cannot so much as hurt the other.

Libels.

Dr. Donac says, 'there may be many cases where a person may do his country good and service by libelling ; for where a man is either too great, or his vices too general, to be brought under judiciary accusation, there is no way but this extraordinary method of accusation ; and I have heard, that nothing hath appalled and allayed the Duke of Lerma so much as the frequent libels made upon him.' Hobbes asserts, that among the Greeks there was no law against contumely by words and gesture : the fact is, that they looked upon any resentment for such contumely to arise from the pusillanimity of him who was offended by it. The Greenlanders generally show their resentment for injuries, by giving their adversaries fair notice that they will recite a libel against them on such a day ; and it is reckoned a want of spirit, if the antagonist does not attend and give a very smart answer.

Jews.

The *Statutum de Judaismo*, said to be of the time of Edward I., contains some curious particulars with regard to the terms on which Jews were tolerated in this country. By the second section, *the good Christians* are not to take above half their substance. By the eighth, no Christian is permitted to lie in their houses. Voltaire, in speaking of the persecution of the Jews, says, '*C'est le même honneur de couler avec un Juif et un chien, et de couler avec nos frères.*'

Howell tells the following story of a Jew in the time of Henry III. He had by accident fallen into a bad pit on his sabbath, Saturday, and would not suffer any one to take him out, though rather a necessary work. The Earl of Gloucester hearing of this, would not suffer any one to take him out on a Sunday, during the sabbath of the Christians. The Jew by this cruel joke was suffocated.

Sir Edward Coke relates, that a great number of Jews were once persuaded by the master of a ship to take a walk upon the sands when the tide was coming in, which he represented to ebb ; and by this deceit they

were surrounded by the sea, and drowned. The reflection which Sir Edward Coke makes on this abominable act of treachery, is not very creditable to his sense of either justice or humanity. He merely says, 'Thus perished these infidel Jews.'

One of the causes of the persecution of the Jews, arose from a notion that they killed the children of Christians in order to use their blood in medicine. Gower says, that this was prescribed to Constantine for the cure of the leprosy ; but he refused to try the medicine ; and as a reward for abstaining from so wicked a remedy, was miraculously cured.

Anathematizing.

Among the modern Greeks, when a man has received, or fancies he has received, a serious injury from his neighbour, and is unwilling to seek redress by the ordinary modes of justice, he betakes himself to what is called *building up a curse* against his adversary. This is done by raising a round barrow, or mound of stones. He first lays himself some large ones for a foundation, and leaves room enough for his relatives or friends, or any passing traveller who may take an interest in his cause, to add a pebble to his anathema. He then solemnly calls upon the Fates to shower down every species of calamity upon the head of the offender ; and not unfrequently joins the arch fiend, the author of all evil, in his invocation. Sometimes it opportunely happens, that the pistol of a Turk, or a malaria fever, soon after takes off the devoted victim ; and the anathematizer is to ensure to be regarded with a species of reverential awe by the neighbourhood, and esteemed as a person under the special protection of heaven.

Cruel Sport.

In the reign of Edward the Sixth, there was an insurrection in Cornwall on account of the alteration of the religion, and the county was placed under martial law, which in those times consisted simply of a provost marshal's going about, and hanging up whomsoever he pleased. Of the wanton manner in which Sir William Kingston, the provost marshal on this occasion, executed his commission, the following memorable instances are recorded.

One Boyer, Mayor of Bodmin, had been among the rebels, not willingly, but by compulsion. Kingston, without inquiring into the circumstances, sent him notice, that on a certain day he would come and dine with him. The mayor made, accordingly, great preparations for receiving the marshal, who failed not to come at the time appointed. A little before dinner, the marshal took the mayor aside, and whispered him in the ear, 'That an execution must that day take place in the town, and that a gallows would require to be set up against the time the dinner should be done.' The mayor promised that one should be ready without fail ; and gave orders to that effect to his officers. Meanwhile a

sumptuous dinner was served up, to which they sat down in the greatest good humour imaginable. The mayor spared no effort to please his guest, who seemed on his part as if he had never been more delighted. When the entertainment was over, the marshal taking the mayor by the hand, requested him to lead him to the place where the gallows was erected. They accordingly walked forth, hand in hand; and on reaching the spot, the marshal asked Boyer, 'If he thought the gallows was strong enough?' 'O yes,' answered the mayor, 'doubtless it is.' 'Well, then,' said the marshal, coolly, 'get you up speedily, for it is provided for you.' 'Nay,' rejoined the mayor, 'surely you mean not as you speak?' 'I faith,' said the marshal, 'there is no other remedy; you have been a busy rebel, so get up instantly.' And so, add the chroniclers, imitating in their style the brevity of the atrocious deed they record, 'without respite or defence was the poor Mayor of Bodmin hanged.'

Near the same town there dwelt a miller, who had actually been very busily concerned in the rebellion. Dreading the approach of the marshal, he told a sturdy fellow, his servant, that he had occasion to go for some time from home, and that he wished him to take charge of his concerns till his return; that some strangers would probably be inquiring after him about an intended purchase of the mill; and in case they should, that he (the servant) should pass for the miller, and say nothing of his being from home. The servant readily consenting to all this, the miller took his leave. Not long after, a party of strangers made their appearance, as expected, at the mill; it was Kingston and his men. 'Ho! there,' exclaimed Kingston, 'miller, come forth.' The servant stepped out, and inquired what was his pleasure? 'Are you the owner of this mill?' 'Yes.' 'How long have you kept it?' 'These three years' (the time his master had kept it). 'Aye, aye!' exclaimed Kingston, 'the very rogue we want.' He then commanded his men to lay hold on the fellow, and hang him on the next tree. On hearing this, the astonished servant instantly called out, 'That he was not the miller, but the miller's man.' 'Nay, sir,' said Kingston, 'I must take you at your word. If thou bee'st the miller, thou art a busy knave; if thou art not, thou art a false lying knave; and howsoever, thou canst never do thy master better service than to hang for him.' All the poor fellow's supplications were in vain; he was instantly despatched.

The Maid and Magpie.

A citizen of Paris having lost several silver forks, accused his maidservant of the robbery; she was tried, and circumstances appeared so strong against her that she was found guilty and executed. Six months afterwards, the forks were found under an old roof, behind a heap of tiles, where a magpie had hid them. It is well known that this bird, by

an inexplicable instinct, steals and collects utensils of gold and silver. When it was discovered that the poor innocent girl had been condemned unjustly, an annual mass was founded at St. John-en-Grese, for the repose of her soul. The souls of the judges had more occasion for it.

This story has been made the subject of interesting dramatic representations, both in France and in this country.

Distress.

A Spaniard insists upon his horse or arms not being taken in execution; a Frenchman, according to the ancient laws of France, has his dress privileged; a Scotchman is content if his working tools are left to him, which are all that the laws of *his* country privilege from seizure.

Self-Defence.

The right of self-defence admits of fewer exceptions than almost any right which is recognised in society. The laws of Spain go farther in this respect than those of most other countries. So far from imposing any forfeiture in the case of homicide committed in the defence of one's person, they exhort every one to resist personal injury to the utmost, considering it better that a man should defend himself when alive, than to leave it to others to avenge him after he is killed. Self-defence is indeed forbidden by the law of Japan. Kempfer says, that if the aggressor is killed, the survivor hath only permission to be his own executioner. The Japanese, however, are not only '*toto divisos orbe*,' by situation, they are still more so by their laws and customs.

Singular Clients.

In the bishopric of Autun, the rats had multiplied to such a degree, from about the year 1522 to 1530, as, from the devastation they committed, to cause an apprehension of famine. All human means appearing insufficient, the ecclesiastical judge of the diocese was petitioned to excommunicate them. But the sentence about to be hurled against them by the spiritual thunder, would not, it was imagined, be sufficiently efficacious, unless regular proceedings were instituted against the devoted objects of destruction.

The proctor accordingly lodged a formal complaint against the rats, and the judge ordered that they should be summoned to appear before him. The period for their appearance having expired without the animals having presented themselves, the proctor obtained a first judgment by default against them, and demanded that the definite judgment should be proceeded in.

The judge deeming it but fair that the accused should be defended officially, named Barthelemi Chassanée their advocate.

Chavandé, sensible of the opprobrious light in which his singular clients were held, vailed himself of many dilatory exceptions, in order to give time for prejudices to abide.

He at first maintained that the rats being dispersed among a great number of villages, a single summons was not sufficient to warn them all. He therefore demanded, and it was ordered, that a second notification should be given to them by the clergyman of each parish at the time of his sermon.

At the expiration of the considerable delay occasioned by this exception, he made an excuse for the new default of his parties, by dwelling on the length and difficulty of the journey; on the danger they were exposed to from the cats, their mortal enemies, who could lay in wait for them in all directions, &c.

When these evasive means were exhausted, he rested his defence upon considerations of humanity and policy. 'Was there anything more unjust than those general proscriptions levelled at whole families, which punished the spring for the guilt of the parents, which involved without distinction those of tender years, and even those whose incapacity equally rendered them incapable of crime,' &c.

We are not informed what award was made by the judge. The President de Thou, who relates the fact, only observes that Chavandé's reputation commenced from this cause, and that he afterwards rose to the chief offices of the magistracy.

Saxon Laws.

The Saxons were particularly curious in giving pecuniary compensation for injuries of all kinds, without leaving it to the discretion of the judge to proportion the amends to the degree of injury suffered. Those penalties were more or less, according to the time or place in which the crime was committed, or the part of the body or member which was injured. The cutting off an ear involved a penalty of thirty shillings; if the hearing was lost, sixty shillings. Striking out the front tooth was punished with a fine of eight shillings; the canine tooth, four shillings; the grinders, sixteen shillings. If a common person was bound with chains, the amends were ten shillings; if beaten, twenty shillings; if hung up, thirty shillings. A man who mutilated an ox's horn was to pay a fine of tenpence; but if it was a cow, the fine was only twopence. To fight or make a brawl in the court or yard of a common person was punished with a fine of six shillings; to draw

a sword in the same place, even though there was no fighting, was a fine of three shillings; if the party in whose yard or court this happened was worth six hundred shillings, the amends were treble.

The notion of compensation ran through the whole criminal law of the Anglo-Saxons, who allowed a sum of money as a recompense for every kind of crime, not excepting murder. Every man's life had its value, called a *were*, or *capitis estimatis*. This had varied at different periods; therefore in the time of King Athelstan a law was made to settle the *were* of every order of persons in the state. The king, who on this occasion was only distinguished as a superior personage, was rated at 30,000 thrymsæ; an archbishop or earl at 15,000; a bishop or alderman at 8,000; *Balli Imperator* or *summus prefectus* at 4,000; a priest or thane at 2,000; and a common person at 267 thrymsæ.

Borrowing.

The Egyptians had a very remarkable ordinance to prevent persons from borrowing imprudently. An Egyptian was not permitted to borrow without giving to his creditor in pledge the body of his father. It was deemed both an impiety and an infamy not to redeem so sacred a pledge. A person who died without discharging that duty was deprived of the customary honours paid to the dead.

False Pleas.

Lord Robert de Willoughby, says Sir Edward Coke, addressing the counsellors at the bar of the court, said, 'I have seen the time, when if you had pleaded an erroneous plea, you would have been sent to prison.' In one of the speeches which Coke made in the Temple Hall, in the year 1614, on a call of sergeants, he mentions the following anecdote with regard to the scruples of Littleton and Coke, about a false plea. They were in the time of Henry VI. entreated to save a default in a real action on this plea; that by the greatness of the waters, their client could not pass for sixteen days. Holding this to be untrue, they refused to plead it.

By a statute of James I. of Scotland, every advocate is ordered to take the following oath:—

'Illud juretur, quod lis sibi justa videtur,
Et si quæretur, verum non inficietur,
Nil promittetur, nec falsa probatio detur,
Ut lis tardetur, dilatio nulla petetur.'



ANECDOTES OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT.

' Ah ! little think they —————
How many bleed
By shameful variance betwixt man and man ;
How many pine in want and dungeon gloom ;
Shut from the common air, and common use
Of their own limbs.'—THOMSON.

British Law.

ALTHOUGH the English criminal code is now the most severe of any in Europe, yet it is certain that it owes none of its severity to our ancestors. The Anglo-Saxons had very few capital punishments ; and although when Alfred the Great ascended the throne, the country was overrun by a foreign invader, and was remarkable for licentiousness and crimes, yet he ventured, even in these perilous times, to mitigate still further the severity of the laws, and abolished the penalty of death for every crime except treason and murder. 'The consequence was,' says his historian, 'that such was the general security throughout the country towards the conclusion of his reign, that a child could walk from one end to the other with a purse of gold around its neck in perfect security.'

So deeply was this system of judicial clemency engraven on the character of the nation, that the Danes, who overturned almost every Anglo-Saxon institution, permitted the laws in regard to capital punishments to preserve all their lenity. The code of Canute, in one of its clauses, 'on showing mercy in judgment,' thus commences :

'We desire, though any man sin, and deeply involve himself in iniquity, yet that his punishment be moderate, so that it be merciful before God, and tolerable in the sight of man ; and let him who giveth judgment consider what he himself desireth when he prays thus : "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us." And we forbid that Christian men should be condemned to death on any slight cause. Let discipline be freely administered for the benefit of the people ; but let not men for a little cause destroy the handiwork of God, and the purchase of Christ, so dearly bought.'

But the most remarkable proselyte that ever was gained to the doctrine of mild punishments was William the Conqueror, who is described by all his biographers as a sanguinary and merciless tyrant. He is described by the monkish chroniclers as hating

the natives ; and that 'he made large forests for the deer, and enacted laws therewith, so that whoever killed a hart or a hind should be blinded. As he forbade the deer, so also the boars ; and he loved the tall stags as if he were their father.' Terrible as the king was to his subjects in forest laws, yet the severity of his temper yielded to the prevalent doctrines of his age ; for he concludes both his codes of laws, issued at the commencement and towards the conclusion of his reign, with these words : 'I prohibit that any man shall be put to death for any cause whatever.'

Thus the three most distinguished law-givers of the Anglo-Saxon, the Danish, and the Norman line, by their own examples, prove that British law, in its origin and source, was peculiarly merciful and tender of human life. 'Were other instances wanted in proof of this fact, they might be found in the declaration of Lord Coke, that most of our capital enactments are by statute ; and of Sir Henry Spelman, who says, that while all other things have grown dearer, the life of man is estimated at a lower rate by us than by our ancestors ; and Blackstone, in recapitulating the great changes which have taken place in this country, thinks none greater and none more to be lamented than the change from the great mercy of our ancestors to the extreme severity of our modern law.

Capital Punishments.

In the infancy of states, the idea of capital punishments might naturally enough suggest itself, as when any one had committed an offence and disturbed the peace of society, the question would then first arise, 'How shall we prevent these things?' The answer most likely to occur to a set of barbarians, would be, 'Extirpate the offenders, and give yourselves no further trouble about it.'

Such is the practice among the Hottentots, who have no fixed law to direct them in the distribution of justice. Consequently, when any offence has been committed, there is no

of trial, or proportion of punishment to crimes; but the Kraal village is called *ther*, the delinquent is placed in the *at*, and without further ceremony, dashed with their clubs, the chief striking first blow.

At such times, however, furnish us with a striking exception to the barbarity of infant *as*. Every one will acknowledge the impolicy of this form of government, and under it almost all crimes were restrained by pecuniary fines, and few capital punishments were in use.

Roman Lenity.

Under the consulship of Acilius Glabrio, *Piso*, the Acilian law was made to prevent intriguing for places; by which the guilty were condemned to a fine; they could not be admitted into the rank of senators, nor admitted to any public office. Dio says, the Senate engaged the consuls to promulgate this law, by reason that C. Cornelius, *Clauus*, had resolved to cause more severe punishments to be enacted against this crime, which the people seemed much inclined. The Senate judged rightly, that excessive punishments would indeed strike terror into the minds of the people, but that they must have this effect, that there would be no afterwards to accuse or condemn; whereas, by imposing moderate penalties, there would be judges and accusers.

Perfidy Punished.

While the Romans were besieging the city of *Alisea*, a schoolmaster contrived to lead the children of the principal men of the city to the Roman camp. The novelty of such a sight surprised them, and they so much admired it, that they immediately ordered the parents of the traitor to be tied, and giving one of the scholars a whip, bade them whip their father back to the city, and then return to their parents. The boys executed their commission so well in this instance, that the wretch suffered under their blows as they entered the city. The generosity of the Romans touched the traitor so sensibly, that the next day he submitted himself to the Romans on honorable terms.

Countess of Buchan.

A man, seeing this, saying human feelings, does not blush, saying his head, to think himself a man?

COWPER.

The Countess of Buchan, who had been very active in the cause of Bruce, was placed in the crown on his head, and the Countess of King Edward shut up in a tower in one of the towers of Berwick; and Mary, sister to Bruce, in the manner, in the castle of Roxburgh.

The order to the Chamberlain of Scotland, or his lieutenant in Berwick, for making the cage for the Countess of Buchan, was by writ of privy seal; by which he was directed to make in one of the turrets of Berwick-upon-Tweed, which he should find the most convenient, a strong cage of lattice-work, constructed with posts and bars, and well strengthened with iron. This cage to be so contrived, that the Countess might have therein the necessary convenience, proper care being taken that it did not lessen the security of her person; that the said Countess being put in this cage, should be so carefully guarded, that she should not by any means go out of it; that a woman or two of the town of Berwick, of unsuspected character, should be appointed to administer her food and drink, and attend her on other occasions; and that he should cause her to be so strictly guarded in the said cage, as not to be permitted to speak to any person, man or woman, of the Scottish nation, or any other, except the woman or women assigned to attend her, and her other guards.

Matthew of Westminster, a contemporary writer, says, that the king declared, that as she did not strike with the sword, she should not die with the sword, but ordered her to be shut up in an habitation of stone and iron, shaped like a crown, and to be hung out at Berwick in the open air, for a spectacle and everlasting reproach, while living and dead, to all that passed by.

Becket's Executioners.

In the year 1170, the four knights who slew Thomas à Becket, fled for refuge to Knaresborough Castle; their names were Sir Hugh de Morville, whose descendants were settled in Cumberland, where the sword with which he slew Thomas à Becket was long kept, in memory of the circumstance; Sir Richard Breton; Sir William Tracey; Sir Reginald Fitzurse, or Bear's son. They remained shut up for a year; but submitting to the church, were pardoned on condition of performing a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

Poisoned Cup.

Pope Alexander the Sixth went into a vineyard near the Vatican, where his son Cæsar Borgia, Duke of Valence, meaning to poison Adrian Cardinal Cornetti, had sent certain bottles of wine mixed with poison, and delivered them to a servant, who knew nothing of the matter, commanding him, that 'none should touch them but by his appointment.' It happened that the Pope came in some time before supper, and being very thirsty, through the immoderate heat of the season, called for some drink. The servant who had the poisoned wine in keeping, thinking that it had been committed to him as a special and precious sort of wine, brought a cup of it to the Pope, and while he was drinking, his son

Borgia came in, and drank also of the same. Both were poisoned, but the Pope only died; his son, by the strength of youth and nature, and use of potent remedies, recovered.

Law of Nations.

Lysander having obtained a victory over the Athenians, the prisoners were ordered to be tried, in consequence of an accusation brought against that nation of having thrown all the captives of two galleys down a precipice, and of having resolved, in full assembly, to cut off the heads of those whom they should chance to make prisoners. The Athenians were therefore all massacred, except Adymantes, who had opposed the decree of his brother senators.

Reigns of Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth.

The inefficacy of the extreme severity of punishment, is strikingly exemplified in the reign of Henry VIII., remarkable for the abundance of its crimes, which certainly did not arise from the mildness of punishment. In that reign alone, says his historian, *seventy-two thousand* executions took place for robberies alone, exclusive of the religious murders, which are known to have been numerous, amounting, on an average, to six executions a day, Sundays included, during the whole of Henry VIII.'s reign.

That this barbarous severity of the law did not prevent crime, we have the authority of Sir Thomas More, who introduces into his works a dialogue between himself and a lawyer. The lawyer applauds the severity of the law, and exults in the fact, that he had himself seen twenty executed on the same scaffold. But he concludes by confessing, that it was a little difficult for him to explain how it happened, that 'while so many thieves were daily hanged, so many still remained in the country, who were robbing in all places.'

Although these severities were ineffectual during the reign of Henry VIII., yet it might be supposed that some benefit would have accrued from them at its conclusion, and that the race of robbers would have been exterminated. This, however, was not the case. In Strype's 'Annals,' there is a letter from a magistrate of Somersetshire, to the Lord Chief Justice, which gives an account of the state of society in that county, during the 'glorious days of good Queen Bess;' and such an account as may make us all rejoice, that those 'glorious days' have long since passed away. The magistrate writes:—'I may justly say, that the able men that are abroad, seeking the spoil and confusion of the land, are able, if they were reduced to good subjection, to give the greatest enemy her majesty hath a strong battle, and, as they are now, are so much strength to the enemy. Besides, the generation that daily springeth

from them, is likely to be most wicked. These spare neither rich nor poor; but whether it be great gain or small, all is fish that cometh to net with them; and yet I saie, both they and the rest are trussed up apace.'

The same magistrate, who is a strong advocate for the severity of the law, and calls the statute for the execution of gipsies, 'the godly edict,' very unconsciously lets us in to the secret why criminals so much abound in his time; he says: 'In which default of justice, may wicked thieves escape. For most commonly the most simple countrymen and women, looking no farther than to the loss of their own goods, are of opinion that they would not procure any man's death, if all the goods in the world.'

Queen Elizabeth was a great advocate for the certainty of punishment, and the rigorous exertion of the laws. In a speech which she directed to be made to her Parliament, she says, 'a law without execution, is but a bow without life, a cause without an effect, countenance of a thing, and indeed nothing again, 'the making of laws without execution does very much harm, for that breeds and brings forth contempt of laws, and law-making and of all magistrates.'

This queen, who makes such loud complaints of the non-execution of her laws, contrived to execute more than five hundred criminals in the year. with which number she was so little satisfied, that she threatened to send private persons to see her penal laws executed 'for profit and gain's sake.' It appears that her majesty did not threaten in vain; for soon after this a complaint was made in Parliament, that the stipendiary magistrate of that day was 'a kind of living creature, who, for half a dozen of chickens, would dispense with a dozen of penal statutes.'

Parricide.

Parricide was by the Roman law punished in a much severer manner than any other kind of homicide. After being scourged, the delinquents were sowed up in a leathern sack with a live dog, a cock, a viper, and an adder, and so cast into the sea. Solon, it is true, his laws made none against parricide, conceiving it impossible that any one should be guilty of so unnatural a barbarity. The Persians, according to Herodotus, entertained the notion, when they adjudged all persons who killed their reputed parents to be illegitimate, and to some such reason as this must be put the omission of an exemplary punishment for this crime in the English laws; we treat it no otherwise than as simple murder, unless the child is also the servant of the parent.

The Furca, or Gallows.

The *furca*, an instrument of punishment among the Romans, was a piece of timber resembling a fork. The punishment of the *furca* was of three kinds: the first only is

ious, when a master for small offences, pelled a servant to carry a furca on his shoulders about the city. The second was a, when the party was led about the city, or other place, with the furca about neck, and whipped all the way. The third was capital, when the malefactor having read fastened on the furca, was whipped to death.

The gallows for executing criminals by hanging, is still called *furca* on the continent, particularly in France and Italy. In the latter country, the name is still appropriate, the gallows being a real fork driven into the ground; across the legs of it a beam is laid, on which the rope is fastened.

Ravaillac.

The records of human punishment scarcely furnish an instance in which torture was so cruelly and barbarously studied, as in the execution of Ravaillac, the assassin of Henry IV. of France. An authentic account of this event, is to be found in a scarce black-letter tract, entitled, 'The terrible and bloody Death of Francis Ravaillac, shewing the manner of his strange torments at his execution, as it was printed in French in the several bookes published by authorettee.'

After noticing the trial of Ravaillac, who died guilty, the tract states that he was led to execution in the following manner: First, (naked in his shirt) he was brought to the Consergerie, (being the prison for palace, with a lighted torch of two pound weight in one hand, and the knife (wherewith he killed the king) chained to the other hand, openly to be seen, that the least child of the present might behold it; after this, he was placed standing upright in a tumbrell or cart, and so from thence, conducted to a garden of citizens, to the capital church of St. Denis, where being adjudged to do penance, he had bene made a sacrifice to the rage of the rude people, had not there bin appointed officers to see his execution prevented it.

After this, being accompanied to the place of execution with two doctors of divinitie, all way perswading him to save his soule by everlasting punishment, by revealing and naming his associates therein, which he would not, but stiffly (though ungraciously) to the bloody burthen upon his owne shoulders, withstanding, even to the death, he made promises whatsoever. In this manner he was carried to the greve, being a spacious garden, and about the middle of Paris, where he had builded a very substantial scaffold of oak timber, wherupon, according to his punishment, he was to be *tortured to death*. Viguit, the king's attorney-generall, was appointed principall to see the execution, and came to gather if he could some further light on this inhumanlike conspiracie.

This here following was the manner of his punishment, an example of terror made knowne to the world, to convert all bloody minded traitors from the like enterprise. At his first

coming upon the scaffold, he crossed himselfe directly over the breast, a signe that he did live and dye an obstinate papist, whercupon by the executioners he was bound to an engine of wood and iron, made like to a S. Andrew's crosse, according to the fashion of his body, and then the hand with the knife chayned to it (wherewith he slew the king), and halfe the arme was put into an artificial furnace, then flaming with fire and brimstone, wherein the knife, his right hand, and halfe the arme adjoyning it, was in a most terrible manner consumed, yet nothing at all would he confesse.—The rest of the details are too horrible to be repeated. The wretched criminal would give no other reason for the crime he had committed, than 'the king had tolerated two religions in the kingdom.' 'Oh! small occasion,' exclaims the writer of this narrative, 'that for this cause, one servile slave should thus quench the great light of France, whose brightness glistened through Europe!'

Burning Alive.

The punishment of burning alive, horrible as it is, has been inflicted by several communities. It was adopted with many variations among the Babylonians and the Hebrews. It was enacted at Rome, by the code of the twelve tables, against incendiaries; and examples of it frequently occur in the early ages of the French monarchy. In France, the convict wearing a shirt dipped in sulphur, is bound with an iron chain to a stake. This is the most rigorous of all the ordinary punishments; and yet, though inflicted in cases of witchcraft, sacrilege, blasphemie, heresy, it is not extended to the more heinous crime of parricide.

In England, burning alive has been the punishment for several crimes, particularly for the imputed one of heresy, of which Smithfield was so often the scene in the reigns of Henry the Eighth and Queen Elizabeth.

Henry the Fifth.

Among the spectators at the execution of Badly, the tailor, who was burnt in Smithfield for heresy, was Henry, Prince of Wales, afterwards Henry V. Struck with pity at the miserable cries of the unhappy victim, the prince commanded the fire to be extinguished, and offered him a pension if he would retract his opinions. But this Badly declined to do, and perished resolute in his faith.

James the Sixth.

When James the Sixth of Scotland was on his way to London, to occupy the English throne, he gave a sad omen of his reign by an act of wanton despotism. A cutpurse, who had followed the king's retinue from Berwick, was taken at Newark-on-Trent, in the fact; and having confessed his guilt, the king, of

his own authority, and without even the form of trial, directed a warrant to the Recorder of Newark to have him hanged, which was executed accordingly. Although not the slightest resistance was made to this needless and daring violation of the laws of England, and of the first principles of all civilized government, yet it made a deep impression. The Tudors, with all their tyranny, had never been guilty of so wanton an outrage on the most venerated institution of the country—trial by jury; and men wondered what further innovations the Scottish Solonion would make.

Punishment of Cooks.

In the year 1530, Smithfield, which had been used as a place for the execution of felons, even before the year 1219, was the scene of a most severe and singular punishment, inflicted on one John Roose, a cook, who had poisoned seventeen persons of the Bishop of Rochester's household, two of whom died. By a retrospective law, he was sentenced to be boiled to death; a judgment, horrible as it was, which was carried into execution. In 1541, Margaret Davie, a young woman, suffered in the same place and manner, for a similar crime.

Vestal Virgin.

A young lady of high birth and fashion at Rome, but unfortunately of the number of Vestal virgins, became involved in a fatal snare, by a line which dropped carelessly from her pen. The Vestals were allowed great honours and great liberty; and this lady had probably been pleasantly entertained by some married friend, from whose demeanour she had formed a very favourable idea of wedlock. Actuated by some motive, she wrote on a scroll, in the ecstasy of her spirit, '*Felices Nuptæ! Moriar ni nubere dulce est.*' Hail, happy bride! I would I were dead or wedded.

The verse was unhappily found, and her handwriting being known, she was accused as having incurred the punishment due to those who disgraced the temple of Vesta, that of being buried alive. Seneca reports the argument on both sides, but does not give us the result.

Torture.

It seems astonishing that the usage of the administration of torture should be said to arise from a tenderness for the lives of men; and yet in the civil law this is the reason given for its introduction, and its subsequent adoption by the French and other foreign nations; namely, because the laws cannot endure that any man should die upon the evidence of a false, or even a single, witness, and therefore contrived this means that inno-

cence should manifest itself by a stout denial of guilt, or by a plain confession; thus estimating a man's virtue by the strength of his constitution; and his guilt by the sensibility of his nerves. Beccaria, in an exquisite piece of raillery, ridicules this doctrine, and has proposed the following problem, which the advocates of torture should resolve before they again plead in its behalf:—'The force of the muscles, and the sensibility of the nerves, of an innocent person, being given, it is required to find the degree of pain necessary to make him confess himself guilty of a given crime.'

The trial by rack or torture is utterly unknown to the laws of England; though once when the Dukes of Exeter and Suffolk, with other ministers of Henry the Sixth, had formed a design of changing the law, they erected a rack for torture, which, in derision, was called the Duke of Exeter's daughter, and still remains in the Tower of London, where it was occasionally used as an engine of state, not of law, more than once in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

When Felton, upon his examination at the Council Board, declared, as he had always done, that no man living had instigated him to the assassination of the Duke of Buckingham, or knew of his intention, the Bishop of London said to him, 'If you will not confess, you must be put to the rack.' Felton calmly replied, 'If it must be so, I know not whom I may accuse in the extremity of torture, Bishop Laud, or perhaps any lord at this Board.' Laud having proposed the rack, the matter was shortly debated in the council, and afterwards referred to the judges, who unanimously resolved that the rack could not be legally used.

Fate of Charles I.

When the news of Charles I.'s fate reached Sweden, though it made a great noise, yet very few thought of it with any horror; nay the French ambassador said it ought to be a warning to all princes, how they exceeded the bounds of justice and moderation. On its first mention at court, the Queen Christina turned to a nobleman who came in a moment after, and said, 'My lord, the English have cut off their king's head, for making no use of it, and they have acted very wisely.'

Charles II. and Lord William Russel.

It has been held by Sir Matthew Hale and Sir Edward Coke, that even the king cannot change the punishment of the law, by altering the hanging or burning into beheading, though when the last is part of the sentence, the king may remit the rest; but others have thought more justly, that this prerogative being founded in mercy, and immemorially exercised by the crown, is part of the common law; for hitherto, in every instance, all these exchanges

ive been in favour of that godlike attribute royalty—mercy.

When Lord Strafford was executed for the pinch plot, in the reign of King Charles II., the sheriffs of London having received the king's writ for beheading him, petitioned the House of Lords for a command or order how the judgment should be executed; for as he had been prosecuted by impeachment, they retained an idea, which Lord Russel is said to have sanctioned, that the king could not read any part of the sentence. The lords resolved that the scruples of the sheriffs were necessary, and declared that the king's writ ought to be obeyed. Disappointed of raising a scene in that assembly, they immediately petitioned to the House of Commons, by one of its members, that they were not satisfied as to the power of the said writ. That House took two days to consider of it, and then suddenly resolved that the house was *content* that the sheriffs should execute Lord Strafford by severing his head from his body.

When Lord Russel was afterwards condemned for high treason upon indictment, the king, when he remitted the ignominious part of the sentence, observed, that 'his lordship would now find he was possessed of that prerogative which in the case of Lord Strafford he had denied him.' Were this really the case, it is difficult to know which most to disapprove of, the indecent and sanguinary zeal of the subject, or the cool and cruel sarcasm of the sovereign.

Blood's Attempt on Ormond.

The attempt of the infamous assassin Blood, on the life of the great and good Duke of Ormond, in the time of Charles II., was suspected to have been contrived by the Duke of Buckingham. Ormond himself overlooked it,

his son, the young Earl of Ossory, who was warm, brave, and spirited, did not preserve so cool a temper upon the occasion. While Buckingham was standing behind the king, this young earl advanced to him with an aspect, 'My lord,' said he, in a low and even voice, 'I well know that you were at the bottom of the late attempt of Blood. Take care, should my father come to an untimely violent death, I shall consider you as the assassin; I shall pistol you as the assassin; I will pistol you, though you stand behind the king; I tell it you in his majesty's presence, and you may be sure I shall keep my word.'

The Pillory.

A person sentenced to the pillory, must have the sentence strictly executed upon him; and the officer gives him any indulgence, he is held to be punished in a summary manner, in application to the court. An instance in which this rigid adherence to the strictness of punishment was violated, occurred in the case of Shebbeare, who, in the year 1758, was sentenced to be set in and upon the pillory. It

appeared that Beardmore, who, as under-sheriff, was to see the sentence executed, indulged Shebbeare so far as not to put him in the pillory, but simply to stand on the platform. The attorney-general, therefore, applied for an attachment against Beardmore, to punish him for a contempt of the court, in taking upon himself to *remit this part of the sentence*, pronounced upon Shebbeare. The attorney-general produced affidavits, which were very full in asserting that Shebbeare only stood upon the platform of the pillory, unconfined, and at his ease, attended by a servant in livery (which servant and livery were hired for this occasion only), holding an umbrella over his head all the time; but his head, hands, neck, and arms, were not at all confined, or put into the holes of the pillory; only that he sometimes put his hands upon the holes of the pillory, in order to rest himself. And it was proved, that Mr. Beardmore attended as under-sheriff, with his wand; and that he treated the criminal with great complaisance, in taking him to and from the pillory.

The counsel on behalf of Mr. Beardmore, produced his affidavit, stating, that his officiating at all in this affair was quite casual and unexpected, on a sudden message from his brother under-sheriff. It was as full and explicit as possible, 'that he had no sort of design or intention, either directly or indirectly, to favour Shebbeare; that he gave no particular direction to his under officers about it; but meant and intended that this sentence should be executed in the usual and ordinary manner, as other sentences of the like kind were and used to be executed; and that he stood at a shop opposite the pillory, during the whole time, without almost ever taking his eyes off from it during the whole time, in order to see the sentence properly executed; and that he would have obliged him to stand in what he (Mr. Beardmore) took to be the proper manner, if Shebbeare had offered to withdraw himself from such position.' And he positively swore, 'that according to the best information he could get, he looked upon the manner in which Shebbeare stood, to be the usual and proper manner of standing, pursuant to rules worded as this rule is; and that he did, according to the best of his judgment, fully and duly execute the judgment of the court in the usual and common manner.'

Fourteen or fifteen affidavits were at the same time produced, proving that the manner in which Shebbeare actually stood, was with his hands in and through the small holes, and his head and face fully exposed through (some of them said in and through) the large hole; and that he stood so during the whole time that the sentence required him to stand.

And several of the deponents (sheriff's officers and others) swore positively that the standing without confining the head, was the usual ordinary manner, and had been so for thirty or forty years in Middlesex, of criminals pursuant to rules of this kind; and that it had been usual in that county, not to fasten or confine the head in the pillory, for a great

many years backwards, and ever since one or two persons who were locked down in the pillory had been killed; and several of them particularized how much inconvenience might follow from fastening it down upon the head. And two of the sheriff's officers swore, 'that they always deemed and conceived it to be a full execution of the words of the rule, to stand as this man stood, with the hands in, and the head and face exposed through the holes of the pillory.'

Mr. Beardmore and his counsel admitted (or at least did not pretend to contradict) that his arms were not put through the small holes, and that the pillory was not *shut down* upon Shebbeare, nor his head absolutely thrust through it; which the sheriff's officers swore they did not apprehend to be necessary or usual unless the person was refractory. Neither, indeed, was it pretended that the upper board of this pillory was at all let down over his neck.

Mr. Howard observed, (amongst other things) that the sentence of quartering and burning the bowels of traitors is never strictly executed, nor the punishment of burning in the hand, which is constantly and notoriously done in the face, and with the knowledge of the judges themselves, with a cold iron.

Lord Mansfield declared that the charge, if true, was a disobedience to the rules of the Court by their own officer, and as such, liable to a summary punishment. Justices Denison, Foster, and Wilmot, were of the same opinion, and an attachment was issued against Beardmore. He was brought up, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment, and a fine of £30.

Compensation.

Among the Indians of America, murder is still considered as a civil injury, left to individual punishment or revenge. The murderer may even appease the wrath of the relatives of the murdered by *covering the body*; a phrase which combines at once an elegant sentiment of hiding a distressful and irritating object from the eyes of its natural lovers and avengers, and a worldly satisfaction of the more sordid feelings of the injured, by offering an atonement in goods. The American Indians cover the body by heaping upon it clothing and trinkets, and other articles of value.

In Turkey it is considered the business of the next relations, and of them only, to avenge the slaughter of their kinsmen; and that if they rather choose to compound the matter for money, nothing more should be said about it.

The appeal of murder, now happily abolished in this country, was founded upon the same principle; even after the appeal was brought, the appellor might accept a pecuniary compensation. Such was the case of the Kennedies, who, in 1770, were tried for the murder of a watchman on Westminster Bridge. They were found guilty, and sentence of death was passed on them; but

they were respited, and afterwards pardoned, on condition of transporting themselves for life. At the following session, the widow of the murdered man brought an appeal: they were brought to the bar of the Court of King's Bench, in order to plead to the appeal; but the widow having accepted the sum of £350 as a compensation, did not appear, and suffered a non-suit.

Indian Punishment.

In one of the Bombay journals for 1814, there is the following account of the punishment of a criminal at Baroda, by an elephant. The man was a slave, and two days before had murdered his master, brother to a native chieftain, named Ameer Sahib. About eleven o'clock the elephant was brought out, with only the driver on his back, surrounded by natives with bamboos in their hands. The criminal was placed three yards behind on the ground, his legs tied by three ropes, which were fastened to a ring on the right hind leg of the animal. At every step the elephant took, it jerked him forwards, and eight or ten steps must have dislocated every limb, for they were loose and broken when the elephant had proceeded five hundred yards. The man, though covered with mud, showed every sign of life, and seemed to be in the most excruciating torments. After having been tortured in this manner about an hour, he was taken to the outside of the town, when the elephant, which is instructed for such purposes, is backed, and puts his foot on the head of the criminal.

The Ordeal in India

Among other curious circumstances in my administration of justice at Dhuborg, (says Mr. Forbes in his 'Oriental Memoirs,') I was sometimes obliged to admit of the ordeal trial. In the first instance, a man was accused of stealing a child covered with jewels, which is a common mode of adorning infants among the wealthy Hindoos. Many circumstances appeared against him, on which he demanded the ordeal. It was a measure to which I was very averse, but at the particular request of the Hindoo arbitrators, who sat on the carpet of justice, and especially at the earnest entreaty of the child's parents, I consented. A cauldron of boiling oil was brought into the dubar, and, after a short ceremony by the Brahmins, the accused person, without showing any anxiety, dipped his hand to the bottom, and took out a small silver coin, which I still preserve in remembrance of this transaction. He did not appear to have sustained any damage, or to suffer the smallest pain; but the process went on no further, as the parents declared themselves perfectly convinced of his innocence.

In India there are various sorts of ordeal, which in several parts of that vast empire is still the favourite and common mode of decid-

g disputes, not only between individuals, but in cases affecting a whole tribe. A few years ago, the Koolies of a village in the northern part of Guzerat, were accused of having seized and imprisoned a Bohra, and of exacting a bond from him for four hundred and fifty rupees. The Thakurda, or chief, a Bohra Koolie, named Wagajee, denied every part of the charge, and for the proof of his innocence and that of his people, offered to submit to trial by any kind of ordeal. The Bohra agreed to the trial, and it was terminated the Koolie should immerse himself in a vessel of boiling oil. A large copper pot, called by the natives, Kurye, full of oil, was put on a fire in the market-place, and a pair of blacksmith's bellows applied until it came very hot; a rupee was then thrown into it.

The Koolie came forward, stripped himself, and bathed, saying his prayers, and protesting his innocence; he resisted all attempts to persuade him from the trial.

It is a vulgar, but erroneous opinion, that the people of Hindoostan are insensible and indifferent to the miseries and misfortunes of their fellow-creatures; on this occasion, the crowd assembled seemed universally impressed with the awfulness of an immediate appeal to Deity, and prayed devoutly that if the Koolie were innocent, he might pass through the test unhurt.

After the ceremonies, Wagajee walked up the oil, which appeared boiling, and with great unconcern dipped his hand into it, and held of the rupee, which however slipped out of his fingers into the oil again; he then held up his hand, that the spectators might satisfy themselves of his veracity. His hand appeared as if he had merely put it in cold water; there were no signs of burn or scald whatever upon it. He was absolved, and dismissed with a present of a new turban, amidst the congratulations of his friends and the multitude.

The Branks.

They have an artifice at Newcastle-under-Lyme and Walsall (says Dr. Plott in his history of Staffordshire), for correcting of scolds, which it does too so effectually and so very safely, that I look upon it as much to be preferred to the cucking-stool, which not only endangers the health of the party, but also takes the tongue liberty 'twixt every dip, to either of which this is at all liable; it being with a bridle for the tongue, as not only deprives them of speech, but brings shame for transgression, and humility thereupon because it is taken off; which being put upon the offender by order of the magistrate, and fastened with a padlock behind, she is led into the town by an officer, to her shame; and it is taken off till after the party begins to show all external signs imaginable, of humiliation and amendment.

This instrument, which was called the branks, may properly be termed an iron

mask, having a spike so contrived as to enter the mouth, and hold down the noisy organ. If the offender attempts to speak when undergoing this punishment, a *sharp* hint is given of the necessity of preserving silence.

The Ducking-Stool.

The ducking or cucking stool for the punishment of scolds, was formerly as common in every parish in England, as the stocks or the whipping-post. It was also called a tumbrel, tribuck, trebucket, and a thewe. It consisted of a chair, fixed at the end of a long pole, in which the offenders being seated, were immersed in some muddy or dirty pond.

The ducking-stool is an instrument of punishment of great antiquity. Bourne says it was in use in this country in the time of the Saxons, by whom it was described to be 'cathedra in quo rixosæ mulieres sedentes aquis demergebantur.'

The punishment of the ducking-stool was also inflicted anciently on brewers and bakers who transgressed the laws. In the 'Regiam Majestatem,' by Sir John Skene, this punishment is said to have been anciently used in Scotland. Speaking of browsters, that is, 'wemen quha brews aill to be sauld,' it is said, 'gif she makes gude aill, that is sufficient; but gif she makes evill aill, contrair to the use and consuetude of the burgh, and his convict thereof, she sall pay ane unlaw of aucht shillinges, or sal suffer the justice of the burgh, that is, *she sall be put upon the cuck-stule*, and the aill sall be distributed to the pure folke.'

Borlasse, in his 'Natural History of Cornwall,' tells us that 'among the punishments inflicted in Cornwall of old time, was that of the *cucking-stool*, a seat of infamy, where scolds were condemned to abide the derision of those that passed by, for such time as the bailiffs of manors, which had the privilege of such jurisdiction, did appoint.'

Mr. Lysons, in his 'Environs of London,' mentions, that at a court of the manor of Edgeware, held in the year 1552, the inhabitants were presented for not having a tumbrel, and a ducking-stool, by which it would appear that there was some difference between them; and the following extract from Cowel's 'Interpreter,' is in confirmation of the difference:—'Georgius Grey, comes Cantii clamatur in maner de Bushton et Ayton punire delinquentes contra assisam paniset cervisiae, per tres vices per amerciamenta, et quarta vice pistorum per pilloriam, braciatores per tumbrellam et rixatrices per *thewe*, hoc est ponere eas super scabellum vocat, a *cucking-stool*. Pl. in Itin. apud Cestr. 14 Hen. VII.'

Mr. Lysons gives a curious extract from the churchwarden's and chamberlain's accounts, at Kingston-upon-Thames, in the year 1572, which contains a bill of the expenses for making one of these ducking-stools, amounting to twenty-three shillings and fourpence;

and as entries of this kind are frequent, it would appear that they must have been much in use formerly. Even when Gay wrote his 'Pastorals,' it would appear that they were not uncommon : and are thus described in the 'Dumps.'

'I'll speed me to the pond, where the high stool
On the long plank, hangs o'er the muddy pool,
'That stool the dread of ev'ry scolding quean.'

In the 'New Help to Discourse,' published in 1684, there is the following retort on the subject of the ducking-stool :—"Some gentlemen travelling, and coming near to a town, saw an old woman spinning near the ducking-stool ; one, to make the company merry, asked the good woman what the chair was for ? Said she, "you know what it is."—"Indeed," said he, "not I, unless it be a chair you use to spin in."—"No, no," said she, "you know it to be otherwise ; have you not heard that it is the cradle your good mother hath often layn in?"

A volume of poems by Benjamin West of Northamptonshire, printed in 1780, contains a copy of verses, said to have been written some years previous, entitled the 'Ducking-Stool,' in which it is thus noticed :

'There stands, my friend, in yonder pool,
An engine call'd a ducking-stool ;
By legal pow'r commanded down,
The joy and terror of the town.
If jarring females kindle strife,
Give language foul, or lug the coif ;
If noisy dames should once begin
To drive the house with horrid din,
Away, you cry, you'll grace the stool,
We'll teach you how your tongue to rule.
The fair offender fills the seat,
In sullen pomp, profoundly great.
Down in the deep the stool descends,
But here, at first, we miss our ends ;
She mounts again, and rages more
Than ever vixen did before.
So, throwing water on the fire,
Will but make it burn the higher.
If so, my friend, pray let her take
A second turn into the lake ;
And, rather than your patience lose,
Thrice and again repeat the dose.
No bawling wives, no furious wenches,
No fire so hot but water quenches.'

A note to this poem informs us, that to the honour of the fair sex in the neighbourhood of R***y, this machine has been taken down as useless several years.

How long the ducking-stool has been in disuse in England does not appear ; but that it was not always effectual, is proved from the records of the King's Bench, where we find, that in the year 1681, Mrs. Finch, a most notorious scold, who had been thrice ducked previously, for scolding, was a fourth time convicted for the offence, when the court sentenced her to pay a fine of three marks, and to be imprisoned until it was paid.

In the United States of America, where many English customs, now forgotten in this country, are retained, the ducking-stool is still the punishment inflicted on a common scold, by the law of Baltimore, and some other States of the Union ; and in one of the American papers for 1818, there is a mention of one Mary Davis, who had been indicted for the offence, and found guilty by the jury, after a consultation of an hour and a half. She was sentenced to be publicly ducked.

The Drunkard's Cloak.

It appears from 'Gardiner's England's Grievance in relation to the Coal Trade,' that in the time of the Commonwealth, the magistrates of Newcastle-upon-Tyne punished drunkards by making them put a tub over their heads, with holes in the sides for the arms to pass through, called the Drunkard's Cloak, and thus walk through the streets of the town.

Saving a Preacher.

During the protectorate of Cromwell, a cobbler of New York killed an Indian ; but as this man was an eloquent preacher as well as a cobbler, the colonists determined not to lose him ; they tried him in the accustomed manner, and he was found guilty ; but on the day of execution, they took a poor old weaver who had long been bed-ridden, out of his bed, and hanged him instead of the real offender.

Filial Revenge.

In one of the many plots which were formed against the life and government of Peter the Great, there was among the number of those seized, a soldier belonging to his own regiment of guards. Peter being told by the officers that this man had always behaved extremely well, had a curiosity to see him, and to learn from his own mouth what had been his inducement to be concerned in a plot against him. To this purpose he dressed himself in plain clothes, that he might not be known by the man, and went to the prison where he was confined. After some conversation, Peter added, I should be glad to hear, friend, what were your reasons for being concerned in an attempt against the emperor, your master, as I am certain he never did you any injury ; on the contrary he has a regard for you as a brave soldier, and a man who always did his duty in the field ; if you were, therefore, to show the least remorse for what you have done, the emperor, would, I am persuaded, forgive you : but before I interest myself in your behalf, you must tell me by what motives you were induced to join the mutineers, and I say again, that the emperor, who is naturally good and compassionate, will give you your pardon.

'I know nothing of the emperor,' replied

e soldier, 'for I never saw him but at a distance ; but he caused my father's head to be cut off, some time ago, for being concerned in a former rebellion, and it is the duty of a son to revenge the death of the father, by the death of the person who took away his life. Then, the emperor is really so good and merciful as you have represented him, advise me, for his own safety, not to pardon me, nor were he to restore me to my liberty, but to use I should make of it would be to engage in some new attempt against his life ; it should I ever rest until I had accomplished my design. The surest method, therefore, which he can take, will be to order my head to be struck off immediately, without which my own life is in danger.'

The Czar in vain used all the arguments he could think of, to set before this desperado the folly and injustice of such sentiments. He still persisted in what he had declared, and after departed greatly chagrined at the bad success of his visit, and gave orders for the execution of this man with the rest of his accomplices.

Terrors of Conscience.

Christor Juvenalles Urfus, in a collection of pieces printed in 1601, gives twenty articles of a kind of journal which he had made of the last months of the year 1572, and of the siege of Rochelle in 1573. The following is one of them. 'On August 30th, 1572, eight days after the massacre of St. Bartholomew, I stepped at the Louvre at Mademoiselle des Esque's; the heat had been intense all the day; we went and sat down in a small arbour by the river side, to enjoy the fresh air. On a sudden we heard in the air a horrible sound of tumultuous voices, and of groans mixed with cries of rage and fury; we remained motionless, in the utmost consternation, looking at each other from time to time, without being able to speak. This continued, I believe, almost half an hour; it is certain, the king heard it that he was terrified by it, and that he could not sleep the remainder of the night; at, nevertheless, he did not mention it the next morning, but he was observed to look uneasy, pensive, and wild.' Mr. P. Foix remarks, that if any prodigy deserves credit, it is this being attested by Henry IV. 'This incident,' says D'Aubigné, book i. chap. 6, page 11, 'frequently told, amongst his most intimate friends and many now living can witness, that he never mentioned it without still being terrified by it; that eight days after the massacre of St. Bartholomew, he saw a vast number of ravens perch and croak on the pavilion of the Louvre; that the same night Charles IX., after he had been two hours in bed, started up, roused his grooms of the chamber, and sent them out to listen to a great number of groans in the air, and among others, the furious and threatening voices, the whole of which was heard on the night of the massacre; that all these various cries were so ringing, so remarkable, and so articulate, that

Charles IX., believing that the enemies of the Montmorencies and of their partizans had surprised and attacked them, sent a detachment of his guards to prevent this new massacre.' It is scarcely necessary to add, that the intelligence brought from Paris proved these apprehensions to be groundless; and that the noises heard must have been the fanciful creations of the guilty conscience of the king, countenanced by the vivid remembrance of those around him of the horrors of St. Bartholomew's day.

Peine Forte et Dure.

The most remarkable case that ever occurred of submission to the dreadful penalty of standing mute, now happily repealed, was that of a Mr. Calverly, of a very ancient family in the North of England. Being a man of violent passions, he conceived a jealousy against his wife, which by some unfortunate accident was turned into such a frenzy of rage, that early one morning he murdered her, by splitting her skull with his battle-axe, and forced seven children he had by her, to leap off the battlements of his castle into the moat which surrounded it, where they all stuck fast in the mud, and were suffocated by the slime or the water. The monster then mounted his horse, and galloped towards a farmer's cottage, where one of his children, an infant at the breast, was at nurse. Whilst on the road, he was ruminating in gloomy and horrid satisfaction on his approach to the only victim wanting to the final completion of his jealous revenge; the moon on a sudden darkened, he lost himself in the midst of a thick forest; the thunder of heaven, which now stunned his ears, seemed to roll against him, and summon him to judgment; while the pale lightning appalling his soul, was to his frantic imagination, the fire of hell preparing intolerable punishments and excruciating tortures for millions of ages. In an agony of remorse for the atrocities he had committed, he went and delivered himself up to justice. After having made his peace with heaven for the murder of his wife and children, he now became distressed by the thought of depriving the child so rescued from his dagger, of the estate and dignity of his ancestors; and of leaving it, instead of its due inheritance, poverty and infamy. He reflected, that should he be convicted and suffer, or should he by his own hand anticipate the stroke of justice, his estate must in either case go to the crown. He therefore stood mute upon being arraigned, and submitted to the penalty with the heroic patience of a martyr. His estate was thus preserved for his child, which was a male; and from whom, if we are rightly informed, is lineally descended the present family of Blackett in Yorkshire.

This tragical tale seems to have furnished the fable of the play called the *Yorkshire Tragedy*, said by some critics to be written by Shakspeare.

It was in a case of a very similar nature that this revolting punishment was for the last

time put into execution. The criminal was a master of a ship, charged with piracy, who, to save some landed property to his family, submitted to the penalty of standing mute.

Such were examples of good arising out of this law; but the instances of its operation were more frequently of a very opposite character.

At the Nottingham Assizes in the year 1735, a person who was commonly reputed to have been both deaf and dumb from his infancy, was tried, or rather to be tried, for murder. Two persons, who (as was afterwards found) bore him no great good will, swore positively that they had heard him speak. He was desired to plead guilty or not guilty. A lawyer represented his case most feelingly to the judge. But the law on the subject being supposed to be imperative, he was taken into an adjoining room, and actually pressed to death, continuing, says a register of the times, obstinately dumb to the last!

The *Press-yard*, Newgate, was so named because it was the place for inflicting the *Peine forte et dure*.

Warrant of Execution.

The warrant for executing a criminal was anciently by precept under the hand and seal of the judge, as it is still practised in the court of the Lord High Steward upon the execution of a peer; though in the Court of Peers in Parliament it is done by writ from the king. Afterwards it was established, that in case of life, the judge may command execution to be done without writ. Now the usage is, for the judge to sign the calendar, or list of all the persons' names, with their separate judgment in the margin, which is left with the sheriff. As for a capital felony, it is written opposite to the person's name, 'Let him be hanged by the neck.' Formerly, in the days of Latin and abbreviation, 'sus. per coll.'; for 'suspendatur per collum.' And this is the only warrant that the sheriff has for so material an act as taking away the life of another. It is certainly remarkable, that in civil cases there should be such a variety of writs of execution to recover a trifling debt, issued in the king's name, and under the seal of the court, without which the sheriff cannot legally stir one step; and yet that the execution of a man, the most important and terrible of any, should depend upon a marginal note!

Bridewell.

'At the time I visited Bridewell,' says Mr. Pennant in his 'Account of London,' 'there was not a single male prisoner, but about twenty females. They were confined to a ground floor, and employed in beating hemp. When the door was opened by the keeper, they ran towards it like so many hounds in a kennel, and presented a most moving sight; about twenty young creatures, the eldest not sixteen, many of them with angelic faces, divested of every angelic passion, and featured

with impudence, and impertinence, and profligacy, and clothed in the silken tatters of squalid finery. A magisterial—a national opprobrium! What a disadvantageous contrast to the Spinhouse in Amsterdam, where the confined sit under the eye of a matron, spinning or sewing in plain and neat dresses provided by the public; no traces of their former lives appear in their countenances; a thorough reformation seems to have been effected, equally to the interests and honour of the republic.'

The Isle of Man.

In the Isle of Man it was formerly the law, that to take away an ox or a horse was not a felony, but a trespass, because of the difficulty in that little territory of concealing or carrying them off; but to steal a pig or a fowl, which is easily done, was a capital crime, for which the offender was punished with death.

Inquisition of Toledo.

On the entry of the French into Toledo, during the Peninsular war, General Lasalle visited the palace of the Inquisition. The great number of the instruments of torture, especially the instrument to stretch the limbs, the drop baths, which cause a lingering death, excited horror even in the minds of soldiers hardened in the field of battle. One of these instruments, singular in its kind for refined torture, and disgraceful to reason and religion in the choice of its object, deserves a particular description.

In a subterraneous vault, adjoining the secret audience chamber, stood in a recess in the wall, a wooden statue made by the hands of monks, representing the Virgin Mary. A gilded glory beamed round her head, and she held a standard in her right hand. It immediately struck the spectator, notwithstanding the ample folds of the silk garment which fell from the shoulders on both sides, that she wore a breastplate. Upon a closer examination, it appeared that the whole front of the body was covered with extremely sharp nails, and small daggers or blades of knives with the points projecting outwards. The arms and hands had joints, and their motions were directed by machinery placed behind the partition. One of the servants of the Inquisition who was present was ordered by the general to make the machine *manœuvrer*, as he expressed it. As the statue extended its arms and gradually drew them back, as if she would affectionately embrace and press some one to her heart, the well-filled knapsack of a Polish grenadier supplied for this time the place of the poor victim. The statue pressed it closer and closer; and when, at the command of the general, the director of the machinery made it open its arms and return to its first position, the knapsack was pierced two or three inches deep, and remained hanging upon the nails and daggers of the murderous instrument!

Portuguese Auto da Fé.

When Mr. Wilcox, afterwards Bishop of Worcester, was minister to the English factory at Lisbon, he sent the following letter to the then Bishop of Salisbury, Dr. Gilbert Burnet, dated Lisbon, January 15, 1706, N.S.

'My Lord.—In obedience to your lordship's commands of the 10th ult., I have here sent you that was printed concerning the last *auto da fé*. I saw the whole process, which was agreeable to what was published by Limborch and others upon that subject. Of the five persons condemned, there were but four burnt, Antonio Tavares, by an unusual reprieve, being saved after the procession. Heytor Dias and Maria Penteira were burnt alive, and the other two first strangled. The execution was very cruel. The woman was alive in the flames half an hour, and the man above an hour. The present king and his brothers were seated at a window so near as to be addressed for a considerable time, in very moving terms, by the man as he was burning. But though the favour he begged was only a few more faggots, yet he was not able to obtain it. The fire was recruited as it wasted, to keep him just in the same degree of heat. All his entreaties could not procure him a larger allowance of wood to shorten and dispatch him.'

Signal Self-Punishment.

Three German robbers having acquired, by various atrocities, what amounted to a valuable booty, they agreed to divide the spoil, and to retire from so dangerous a vocation. When the day arrived which they had appointed for that purpose, one of them was despatched to a neighbouring town, to purchase provisions for their last carousal. The other two secretly agreed to murder him on his return, that each might come in for half the plunder, instead of one-third. They did so. But the murdered man was a closer calculator than his assassins, for he had previously poisoned part of the provisions, in order that he might appropriate the whole of the spoil to himself. The triumvirate of *thieves* were found dead together.

Cruelty to Criminals.

Although the English criminal laws are almost unparalleled in severity, yet they are not aggravated by the manner in which they are carried into execution, as was the case in former times, when criminals were treated with barbarous meanness and insult. When Richard Fitzalan, the great Earl of Arundel, was capitally convicted, he was instantly hurried from Westminster Hall, where he was tried, to Tower Hill; his arms and hands were bound; and the king gluted his eyes with the bloody scene. That great peer, Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, who was confined in the Tower in the last year of Henry VIII.,

was reduced to beg for sheets. He was to have lost his head, but was saved by the death of the tyrant, on the very day ordered for his execution. He was kept in custody during the next short reign, but was released on the accession of Queen Mary. He mounted his horse, at the age of fourscore, to assist in quelling the insurrection of Sir Thomas Wyatt, in 1541. This served to fill the Tower with new subjects for the mean insults of the times. Sir Thomas, and the rest of the prisoners, were brought into the Tower through the traitor's gate. The lieutenant received them one by one, with insults and gross abuse. When Sir Thomas appeared, gallantly dressed, the lieutenant actually collared him: Sir Thomas gave him a fierce and reproachful look, bravely telling him, 'this is no masterie now!'

The 'Maiden.'

The 'maiden,' an instrument for beheading criminals in England, seems to have been originally confined in its use, to the limits of the forest of Hardwick, or the eighteen towns and hamlets within its precincts, in the county of York. The time when this instrument first came in use, is unknown; whether Earl Warren, lord of this forest, might have established it among the sanguinary laws then in use against the invaders of the hunting rights, or whether it might not have been introduced after the woollen manufacturers at Halifax began to gain strength, is uncertain. The last is most probable, for the wild country around the town was inhabited by a lawless set, whose depredations on the cloth tenters, might soon stifle the efforts of infant industry.

The custom of beheading by the maiden, which at last received the force of law, seems to have been established for the protection of trade, and the great terror of offenders by speedy execution. The law was, that 'if a felon be taken within the liberty of the forest of Hardwick, with goods stolen out, or within the said precincts, either hand, habend, backberand, or confessed to the value of thirteen-pence halfpenny, he shall, after three market days, or meeting days, within the town of Halifax, next after such his apprehension and being condemned, be taken to the gibbet, and there have his head cut from his body.'

The offender always had a fair trial; for as soon as he was taken, he was brought to the Lord's Bailiff at Halifax; he was then exposed on the three markets, which were held thrice a week, placed in the stocks with the stolen goods on his back; or if the theft was of the cattle kind, they were placed by him; and this was done both to strike terror into others, and to produce new informations against the culprit. The bailiff then summoned four freeholders of each town within the forest to form a jury. The felon and prosecutors were brought face to face, and the goods, the cow, the horse, or whatsoever was stolen, produced.

If he was found guilty he was remanded to prison, had a week's time allowed for preparation, and then was conveyed to the place of execution, where his head was struck off by this machine.

If the criminal, either after apprehension, or in the way to execution, could escape out of the limits of the forest, the bailiff had no farther power over him; but if he should be caught within the precincts at any time after, he was immediately executed on his former sentence.

The maiden was freely used in the *maiden* reign of Queen Elizabeth, during which time twenty-five persons suffered by it; and from 1623 to 1625, at least twelve more; after which it was not used.

In the Parliament House at Edinburgh, one of these machines of death is still preserved. It was introduced into Scotland by the Regent Morton, who took a model of it as he passed through Halifax, had one made, and at last suffered by it himself.

The maiden decapitated the body, by means of an axe fixed in the form of a ram for driving piles of wood. If the criminal was condemned for stealing a horse or a cow, the animal was fixed to the string, and on being whipped, disengaged the axe, which fell upon the neck, and thus the beast became the executioner.

Gipsies.

The first appearance of gipsies in Germany, is supposed to have been in the commencement of the sixteenth century. In a few years they gained such a number of idle proselytes, that they became troublesome, and even formidable, to most of the states of Europe; hence they were expelled from France in the year 1560, and from Spain in 1591. The government of England had taken the alarm much earlier; for in 1530, they are described in a statute of Henry the Eighth, as 'an outlandish people calling themselves Egyptians, using no craft nor feat of merchandize, who have come into this realm, and gone from shire to shire, and place to place, in great companies, and used great, subtle, and crafty means to deceive the people; bearing them in hand, that they by palmistry could tell men's and women's fortunes; and so many times by craft and subtlety have deceived the people of their money, and also have committed many heinous felonies and robberies.'

By this statute they are directed to avoid the realm, and not to return on pain of imprisonment, and forfeiture of their goods and chattels; and upon their trials for any felony which they may have committed, they shall not be entitled to a jury *de medietate lingue*. In the reign of the sanguinary Queen Mary, it was enacted, that if any such persons shall be imported into the kingdom, the importer shall forfeit £40. And if the Egyptians themselves remain one month in the kingdom, or if any person, being fourteen years old, whether natural born subject, or stranger,

who has been seen or found in the fellowship of such Egyptians, or who hath disguised him or herself like them, shall remain in the same one month, at one or several times, it is felony without benefit of clergy.

Sir Matthew Hale states at one Suffolk Assizes, not less than *thirteen* persons were executed upon these statutes, a few years before the Restoration; but to the honour of our national humanity, there are no instances more modern than this of carrying these laws into practice; and, at last, the sanguinary act itself was repealed in 1783.

In Scotland, the gipsies enjoyed some share of indulgence; for a writ of Privy Seal, dated 1594, supports John Faw, Lord and Earl of Little Egypt, in the execution of justice on his company and folk, conform to the laws of Egypt, and in punishing certain persons there named, who rebelled against him, left him, robbed him, and refused to return home with him. King James's subjects are commanded to assist in apprehending them, and in assisting Faw and his adherents to return home. There is a similar writ in his favour from Mary Queen of Scots, in 1563; and in the following year, he obtained a pardon for the murder of Nunan Small; so that it appears he had staid long in Scotland. It was from this King of the Gipsies, that this erratic people received in Scotland the name of Faw's gang, which they still retain.

Louis XI.

Philip de Comines, in his 'Life of Louis XI.' has not concealed the dreadful cruelties and extortions by which he rendered himself one of the most odious monarchs that ever swayed the sceptre of France. Stronger colours could not be employed than those in which he describes his loathsome dungeons, his iron cages, and chain nets. Claude de Seyssel, another historian, says, 'That about the places where he was, were seen great numbers of people hanging on trees; and the prisons, and other neighbouring houses, full of prisoners, which were often heard, both by day and night, to cry out through the torments they endured; besides those who were secretly cast into the rivers.' The same historian observes, 'That this king carried his absolute power to excess. He caused Tristan, his provost, to take the prisoners who were in the palace gaol, and drown them near the Grange aux Mercier.' Mezaria, another historian, relates, 'That he had put to death above four thousand, by different punishments, which he sometimes delighted to see. Most of them had been executed without form of law; several drowned with a stone tied to their necks; others precipitated, going over a swiſe, from whence they fell upon wheels, armed with spikes and cutting instruments; others were strangled in dungeons; Tristan, his companion and provost of his palace, being at once judge, witness, and executioner.'

It is a remarkable fact, that the Bishop of Verdun, who assisted Louis in the invention

his iron cages, was himself put into the first that was made, and confined to it for fourteen days; and that the king himself, not long before his death, was obliged to make himself prisoner in one of his strongest castles, in a dread of that thirst for vengeance with which his cruel conduct had inspired, not only nobles and subjects, but the very members of his own family.

Blood Money.

The reward of forty pounds on conviction of felony, though originally intended to promote vigilance in the officers of justice, has been frequently perverted to the most diabolical purposes. Individuals have not only been induced to commit crimes, in order that the rascal might obtain the price of blood; but criminal records of this country afford many melancholy instances in which innocent persons have been convicted on the perjured evidence of conspirators.

Blood money and its perversions, are not, however, of modern date; they seem to have been well understood as long ago as the reign of Edward the Third, when the appeal of murder was made a source of profit. The preamble to a statute enacted in the reign of that monarch, states, that 'to eschew the rage and destruction that often doth happen by sheriffs, jailors, and keepers of prisons, within franchises and without, which oppress their prisoners, and by such evil means compel and procure them to become criminals, and to appeal harmless and guiltless persons, to the intent to have ransom of such wretched persons, for fear of imprisonment or other cause; the justices of either bench, and justices of assize and gaol delivery, shall, by virtue of this statute, enquire of such commissions, punishments, and torments, and the complaints of all them that will come by bill.'

Louis XIII.

Monsieur de Cinqmars, the favourite of Louis XIII., had, with his majesty's secret approbation, endeavoured to destroy Richelieu and failed. The king was glad to appease the cardinal by sacrificing his friend, and he used to call *cher ami*. When the day of execution arrived, Louis pulled out his watch, and with a villainous smile, said, 'crois qu'à cette heure *cher ami* fait un bon mine.' Voltaire, commending him, says that this king's character is not sufficiently known. It was not, indeed, while such an anecdote remained unstained with the blackest stains of history.

Protestant Sufferers.

When the English court interfered in favour of the Protestant subjects of Louis XIV. of France, and requested his majesty to release those who had been sent to the galleys, the

king asked him angrily, 'What would the King of Great Britain say, were I to demand the prisoners of Newgate from him?' 'Sire,' replied the ambassador, 'my master would give every one of them up to your majesty, if you reclaimed them as brothers, as we do your suffering Protestant subjects.'

Dutch Practice.

Capital punishments are very rare in Holland: between the years 1799 and 1806, only nine persons were executed. But notwithstanding the horror with which the Dutch justly regard the sanguinary code of England, yet the torture was not abolished in Holland until the year 1796. The treatment of prisoners before trial is peculiarly severe; they are confined in the damp subterranean dungeons of the stadthouse, cut off from light and air, and never suffered to quit these gloomy abodes from the first moment of their commitment, until they appear before their judges in the adjoining hall, where they undergo private examinations, and at length a *close trial*. The prisoners are not loaded with irons; in order to escape, indeed, they must heave up the stadthouse, and therefore it may well be thought that such an aggravation of punishment would be unnecessary. They are allowed counsel on trial, but strangers are strictly excluded.

Dutch Workhouse.

The workhouse at Amsterdam is devoted to correctional, as well as charitable purposes. In one part of the building there were confined in 1807, ten young ladies, of very respectable, and some very high, families, sent there by their parents or friends for undutiful deportment, or some other domestic offence; they are compelled to wear a particular dress, as a mark of degradation; obliged to work a stated number of hours a day, and are occasionally whipped; they are kept apart by themselves, and no one but a father, mother, brother, or sister, can see them during their confinement, and then only by an order from one of the directors. Husbands may here, upon a complaint of extravagance, drunkenness, &c., duly proved, send their wives to be confined, and receive the discipline of the house, for two, three, and four years together. The allowance of food is abundant and good; and each person is permitted to walk for a proper time in the courts within the building, which are spacious. Every ward is kept locked, and no one can go in or out, without the special permission of the proper officer.

Ruse de Guerre.

The fatal duel between the Duke of Hamilton and Lord Mohun, is well known. Marcartney, the second to Lord Mohun, was suspected of having stabbed the duke treacher-

ously; a reward was offered for apprehending him. About that time, a gentleman was set upon by highwaymen, and with a happy presence of mind, told them that he was Macartney. On this they brought him to a justice of peace, in hopes of the reward, when he gave charge against them for the robbery, and they were sent to jail.

Matrimonial Export.

In the early settlement of Virginia, when the adventurers were principally unmarried men, it was deemed necessary to export such women as could be prevailed upon to quit England, as wives for the planters. A letter accompanying a shipment of these matrimonial exiles, dated London, August 12, 1621, is illustrative of the manners of the times, and the concern then felt for the welfare of the colony, and for female virtue. It is as follows:—

‘We send you in the ship, one widow and eleven maids, for wives for the people of Virginia; there hath been especial care had in the choice of them, for there hath not one of them been received but upon good commendations.

‘In case they cannot be presently married, we desire that they may be put with several householders that have wives, till they can be provided with husbands. There are nearly fifty more that are shortly to come, and are sent by our Hon. Lord and Treasurer, the Earl of Southampton, and certain worthy gentlemen, who taking into their consideration that the plantation can never flourish till families be planted, and the respect of wives and children for their people on the soil, therefore have given this fair beginning; for the reimbursing of whose charges, it is ordered that every man that marries them, give one hundred and twenty pounds of best leaf tobacco for each of them.

‘Though we are desirous that the marriage be free, according to the laws of nature, yet we would not have those maids deceived, and married to servants; but only to such free-men or tenants as have means to maintain them. We pray you, therefore, to be fathers of them in this business, not enforcing them to marry against their wills.’

Murder will Out.

The observation of Dryden, that

‘With sure steps, though lame and slow,
Vengeance o’ertakes the villain’s speed,’

has seldom met a stronger confirmation than in the conviction and execution of William Andrew Horne, at Nottingham, in 1759, for a murder committed thirty-five years before. The discovery of the crime was rather singular. Horne having threatened one Mr. Roe for killing game, and meeting him soon after at a public-house, words arose about the right to kill game; Roe called Horne some names which subjected him to a prosecution in the Ecclesiastical Court at Litchfield, and

being unable to prove the charge, was obliged to submit, and pay all expenses. Roe being afterwards informed that Charles Horne had mentioned to some persons that his brother William had starved his natural child to death, went to them, and found it was true. Upon this, he applied, about Christmas, 1758, to a justice in Derbyshire, for a warrant to apprehend Charles, that the truth might come out. William Horne was then arrested, and took his trial for the murder of the child, in August, 1759, at Nottingham; when, after a trial which lasted nine hours, he was found guilty.

Certainty of Punishment.

During the wars in Flanders, in the reign of Queen Anne, when the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene commanded the allied army, a soldier, in the division of the latter, was condemned to be hanged for marauding. The man happened to be a favourite with his officers, who took great pains to save his life, and for this purpose interceded with the prince, who positively refused to grant their request. They then applied to the Duke of Marlborough, begging his Grace to interfere; he accordingly went to Prince Eugene, who said, ‘he never did and never would, consent to the pardon of a marauder.’ ‘Why,’ said the duke, ‘at this rate, we shall hang half the army; I pardon a great many.’ ‘That,’ replied the prince, ‘is the reason that so much mischief is done by your people, and that so many suffer for it; I never pardon any, and therefore there are very few to be punished in my department.’ The duke still urged his request on which the prince said, ‘Let the matter be enquired into, and if your Grace has not executed more than I have done, I will consent to the pardon of this fellow.’ The proper enquiries were accordingly made, and the numbers turned out very highly in favour of Prince Eugene; on which he said to the duke, ‘There, my lord, you see the benefit of example. You pardon *many*, and therefore you are forced to execute *many*; I never pardon *one*, therefore *few* dare to offend, and of course but *few* suffer.’

This is one among the many confirmations which might be adduced of the truth of Beccaria’s remark, that ‘a *less* punishment, which is *certain*, will do more good than a *greater* which is uncertain.’

National Reproach.

Some years ago, an attempt was supposed to have been made to rob a house in Paris during the night; the family was disturbed and if there had been any robbers, they were scared from their purpose. The master of the house, in relating the circumstance, said that he thought his house had been attacked *par des rossignols Anglois*; an expression which sufficiently shows that the frequency of burglaries in this country, has become, in a manner, proverbial on the Continent.

Murderers Discovered by Two Dogs.

A labouring man of Tobolski, who had deposited in a purse skin which he wore at his waist, the hard-earned savings of his life, was murdered by two of his companions, for the sake of his little treasure. The murderers fled to a neighbouring forest, followed by two dogs belonging to the deceased, which would not quit them. The wretches did everything to appease them, but in vain. They then endeavoured to kill them, but the dogs leaped upon their guard, and continued to howl madly. Reduced to despair, the murderers, at the end of two days, returned to Irkutsk, and delivered themselves into the hands of justice.

Robespierre.

On the 30th of May, 1793, Robespierre spoke in the National Assembly in favour of punishing the punishment of death; and yet he hardly ever was an individual who showed less regard for human life, or shed blood with such indiscriminate profusion.

Destruction of Robespierre.

The celebrated Jean Lambert Tallien, had enjoyed a tender friendship with the beautiful Madame Cabarus, so celebrated in revolutionary history; but at the period in question, mutual jealousy had interrupted their attachment. She was thrown into a dungeon by the order of Robespierre; and when it was conceived she had been sufficiently terrified by imprisonment, and the prospect of the guillotine, she was offered life and liberty if she would betray the councils of Tallien, and enable his enemies to ruin him. Although her betrayer had been faithless, and had deserted her, she refused the offer with indignation; and, at a great difficulty, had the following letter conveyed to him:

The Minister of Police has announced to me that to-morrow I am to appear at the tribunal, that is to say, I am to ascend the scaffold. I dreamt last night that Robespierre was no more, and that my prison doors were opened. A brave man might have realized this dream; but, thanks to your notorious hardness, no one remains who is capable of such accomplishment.

Tallien answered merely, 'Be prudent as I will prove brave; and, above all, be tranquil.' The next day he hurried to the tribunal, regardless of danger, accused the misanthropic Robespierre in his own presence. The presence of Tallien had always been commanding and impressive; but on this occasion, it was compared to the impetuous flow of a river, whose course had been prematurely stopped. He portrayed the vices of Robespierre and his companions; the cruelty, the other excesses of their government, which had deprived France of her most illus-

trious citizens. Then, taking a dagger from his bosom, he rushed towards the statue of Brutus, his own immortal prototype, and swore, that he himself would stab the tyrant to the heart, if his countrymen did not deliver themselves from their disgraceful bondage. His language, his action, and his animated eye, were irresistible; for they recalled the Roman hero to the minds of all the auditors. Robespierre was astounded, and attempted to defend himself. The moment was critical; the life of Tallien hung upon a thread; but his eloquence prevailed, and the tribunal regained its lost character. The tyrant was sent to the scaffold; Madame Cabarus and other intended victims were saved, and the reign of terror was abolished.

Bandit of Goelnitz.

A judge of the name of Helmanotz, in the department of Zips, sent a young female peasant with a sum of money to Goelnitz, a small town situated among the mountains. Not far from the village a countryman joined her, and demanded where she was going? The girl replied, that she was journeying with a sum of 200 florins to Goelnitz. The countryman told her that he was going there also, and proposed that they should travel together. At the wood, the countryman pursued a path which he had told the girl would shorten their journey at least two leagues. At length they arrived at the mouth of an excavation, which had once been worked as a mine; the countryman stopped short, and in a loud voice said to the girl, 'behold your grave; deliver me the money instantly.' The girl, trembling with fear, complied with his demand, and then entreated him to spare her life; the villain was inflexible, and he commanded her to prepare herself for death; the poor girl fell on her knees, and while in the act of supplicating for life, the villain happened to turn away his head, when she sprang upon him, precipitated him into the cavity, and then ran and announced to the village what had happened. Several of the inhabitants, provided with ladders, returned with her to the spot. They descended into the hole, and found the countryman dead, with the money which he had taken from the girl in his possession. Near him lay three dead female bodies in a state of putrefaction. It is probable that these were victims to the rapacity of the same villain. In a girdle which he had round his body, was discovered a sum of 800 florins in gold.

The Turks.

The Turks, says Mr. Turner, one of the most recent travellers in the East, allow that their emperor may kill every day, fourteen of his subjects with impunity, and without impeachment of tyranny, because, say they, he does many things by divine impulse, the reason of which it is not permitted to them to

know. I have been told that a Pasha of three tails, is authorized by law to cut off five heads a day; a Pasha of two tails, three; and a Pasha of one tail, one.

A Mollah (Judge) of Jerusalem being disturbed at night by dogs, ordered all those animals in Jerusalem and its environs to be killed, and thus excited a mutiny among the people, who are forbidden by the Koran to kill any beast unless it be hurtful, or necessary for the nourishment of man. Having, however, by the authority of the Mufti, his father, succeeded in obtaining obedience to his orders, he was emboldened to issue another still more capricious. The flies being very troublesome to him during the heat of summer, he ordered that every artizan should bring him every day forty of these insects on a string, under a pain of severe fine; and he caused this ridiculous sentence to be severely enforced.

When a Grand Vizier is favourably deposed (*i.e.* without banishing him or putting him to death), it is signified to him by a *chiaoux* from the Sultan, who goes to his table and wipes the ink out of his golden pen; this he understands as the sign of his dismissal; if his fate be more severe, he receives an order from the Sultan to await his sentence in a small kiosk (summer house) just outside the walls of the Seraglio, where he sits sometimes four or six hours, before the messenger comes to tell him whether he is to be banished or put to death.

Hussein, Capitan Pasha (the famous one who fought at Chesme), when in the bay of Smyrna once, with his fleet, seeing one of his ships run foul of another, ordered the captain on board, and beheaded him immediately.

The same Hussein had a Jew physician called in one day to relieve him from an aching tooth; the clumsy fellow unfortunately drew the wrong one, but as the agony of extraction drowned the pain for a time, he got away undetected; the pain soon returned, and a few days after Hussein meeting the man on the Bosphorus, stopped him, and had every tooth in his head drawn.

The Turks lately punished a pirate by flaying him alive; they began at the head, and when they came to the breast, the man died with agony.

A Turk was lately beheaded at Buyukdereh (by order of the Grand Vizier, who was walking about in disguise), for having sold for twenty-four paras, a quantity of chestnuts, of which the price was fixed at twelve paras.

A Turkish Love Affair.

The modern laws of Cos do not reward female chastity, but they discountenance in a very singular manner, any cruelty in females towards their admirers. While Dr. Clarke was in that island, an instance occurred, in which the fatal termination of a love affair occasioned a trial for what the Mohammedan lawyers called 'homicide by an intermediate cause.' The case was as follows:

A young man desperately in love with a girl

of Stanchio, eagerly sought to marry her; but his proposals were rejected. In consequence of his disappointment, he bought some poison and destroyed himself. The Turkish police instantly arrested the father of the young woman, as the cause, by implication, of the man's death: under the fifth species of homicide, he became therefore amenable for this act of suicide. When the cause came before the magistrate, it was urged literally by the accusers, that 'if he, the accused, had not had a daughter, the deceased would not have fallen in love; consequently he would not have been disappointed; consequently he would not have swallowed poison; consequently he would not have died; but he, the accused, had a daughter, and the deceased had fallen in love, and had been disappointed; and had swallowed poison, and had died.' Upon all these counts, he was called upon to pay the price of the young man's life; and this being fixed at the sum of eighty piastres, it was accordingly exacted!

The People of Tibra.

If any one among the Cucis, or Mountaineers of Tibra, puts another to death, the chief of the tribe, or other persons who bear no relation to the deceased, have no concern in punishing the murderer; but if the murdered person have a brother, or other heir, he may take blood for blood; nor has any man whatever a right to prevent or oppose such retaliation.

When a man is detected in the commission of theft, or any other atrocious offence, the chieftain causes a recompense to be given to the complainant, and reconciles both parties; but the chief himself receives a customary fine, and each party gives a feast of pork, or other meat, to the people of his respective tribe.

The Ashantees.

The laws of the Ashantees are very severe. To be convicted of cowardice, is punished with death. In almost all cases of treason, the life of the accuser is at risk, as well as that of the accused, and is forfeited on the acquittal of the latter. Those accused of witchcraft, or of being possessed with a devil, are tortured to death. A person accidentally killing another, pays five ounces of gold to the family, and defrays the burial customs. In the case of murder, it is twenty ounces of gold and a slave, or he and his family become the slaves of the family deceased.

No man is punished for killing his own slave, but he is for the murder of his wife and child. If he kills the slave of another, he must pay his value. If a great man kills his equal in rank, he is generally allowed to die by his own hands: the death of an inferior is generally compensated by a fine to the family, equal to seven slaves.

A captain is allowed to put his wife to death for infidelity; but instead of this, it is expected that he will accept a liberal offer of gold from the family, for her redemption.

riding thefts are generally punished by exposure of the party in various parts of town, whilst the act is published; but more serious thefts cannot be visited on the guilty any but his family, who are bound to compensate the accuser, and punish their relative not, as they think fit; they may even put her to death, if the injury is serious, or crime repeated or habitual.

Any subject picks up gold dropped in the street-place, it is death, being collected only by order of the government on emergencies.

It is forbidden, as it was by Lycurgus, to see the beauty of another man's wife, this being considered intrigue by implication.

Breaking on the Wheel.

M. de la Place relates in his memoirs, that once he entered Brussels, he saw an immense crowd preceding and following the officers of justice, who were conducting a male culprit to the place of execution. She was a young woman of remarkably fine person and whose features were so peculiarly interesting, that even the horrors of her situation could not destroy their effect. Her appearance was rendered peculiar by her dress, which consisted of a jacket and pantaloons of white satin. He eagerly inquired the reason of her crime, and why she had chosen unusual a dress in which to undergo her sentence, when an officer of justice said to him, 'I can fully satisfy you on these points, if you will attend her trial before the ordinary tribunal, the sentence of which was yesterday pronounced by the supreme council of Brabant. I am arraigned, she addressed herself to the judge, and said, "My lord, in order to shorten proceedings, the length of which would be so painful to me than death itself, I entreat you to listen to my story. I shall confess nothing but the circumstances of my crime and family, which no earthly torture induce me to reveal. I was scarcely more than sixteen years old, when I fell a prey to an almost unexampled plan of base and deliberate seduction, which led me in the end to Paris, where I was reduced to extremities that exposed me to the arts of those wretches who prey upon the miseries of my kind. After every gradation of a vile and hateful life, the scenes of which may be imagined, but which it would rack me to death to rehearse, I was reduced to the last extremity of wretchedness. At that moment I was rescued by a man of the lower order, it is true; but he was one whom, from gratitude and feeling, I found that I could sincerely love. A lottery ticket produced me ten louis and livres, and enabled me to return to the conditions I had been laid under. Our love was mutual; we resolved to live for each other alone; we resolved to be united by the obligations of marriage; and mutually agreed that the first act of infidelity should be punished by the forfeiture of the life of the guilty party. I can safely affirm, my lord, from that moment the observance of this

duty became a pleasure to me, and that the deceased himself would have done ample justice to me in this particular, had he lived. Each happy in a state of life that set us above want, our situation was really enviable, when the unfortunate death of the Prince of Conti, whom my husband served as coachman, deprived us of more than half our little income. Soon after this, the Count, with whom he had lived previous to his engagement with the deceased prince, promised to exert himself to procure a similar situation for him under Prince Charles of Lorraine, governor-general of the Austrian Netherlands. With this encouragement, we set out for Brussels, where I made use of our remaining money to establish myself in a little way of business, till the promised recommendation in our favour should take effect. But idleness, that root of all evil, and the want of proper occupation, having led my husband among the disorderly houses in the suburbs, the report of an act of his infidelity soon reached me, and produced such an effect that my life was thought to be in danger. But he appeared to be so sincerely affected by his misconduct, that after having brought the terms of our agreement to his recollection, I suffered myself to be appeased, but with a solemn threat that I would not forgive his next infidelity, should he offend again. Alas! he deceived me again; and I overlooked his second aggravation, for still I loved him ardently. But finding shortly after that he not only continued his irregularities, but that after stripping me of the only money I had remaining, and dispossessing me of the few trinkets I possessed, had concerted a plan to set out, in the dead of the night, for Paris, with my rival, my rage burst its bounds; that night, that fatal night, my hand was unfortunately directed to a sword which he always kept in his bed-chamber. I stabbed him—mortally stabbed him, with it while he slept. I did not fly, though, as I had at least four hours before me, I might have been far from Brussels, and have saved myself before my crime was discovered; but at the sight of his blood—of that blood which a few weeks before I would have given my own to have preserved, I was so overcome, that I fainted on the spot. I recovered in about two hours after, just in time to see my murdered husband expire in my arms, and with his dying looks, for speak he could not, forgive me; I seized the reeking instrument of my revenge, and was about to plunge it in my own bosom. No, cried I, such an act would be too mild a punishment for me, the severest sufferings can scarcely atone for such guilt. I left not the body for a single instant, till the officers of justice appeared to arrest me; and all that I now seek, is to have that execution hastened which alone can expiate my crime." Never was I so deeply affected,' said the officer to M. de la Place, 'as by the calm and solemn dignity of manner with which this address was delivered; and being desirous to know if her courage would equally uphold her in the presence of the supreme tribunal, I attended there likewise, and found her alike firm and

undaunted, till the announcement of her sentence, which was, that she should be broken alive on the wheel. "The wheel!" said she, with a piercing shriek, that penetrated my very soul: "do you forget that I am a woman?" Such, she was told, was the law in a case like hers. "Ah!" said she, in a voice half broken with sobs, "had I known this sooner"—but recovering herself immediately after, "Forgive me, gentlemen," said she, "for this transport; there is no degree of suffering or humiliation but I am prepared to undergo. Only allow me, and I shall be resigned to my fate—only allow me to appear upon the scaffold with that decent degree of covering which may screen my naked limbs."

'Her request was granted; and returning thanks to her judges, she was reconducted to prison. The dress was then prepared for her; that dress in which you have just seen her proceeding to execution.'

The Maid and the Magpie.

A noble lady of Florence, who resided in a house which still stands opposite the lofty Doric column which was raised to commemorate the defeat of Pietro Strozzi, and the taking of Sienna, by the tyrannic conqueror of both, Cosmo the First, lost a valuable pearl necklace, and one of her waiting-women (a very young girl) was accused of the theft. Having solemnly denied the fact, she was put to torture, which was then given *à plaisir* at Florence. Unable to support its terrible infliction, she acknowledged that 'she was guilty,' and without further trial was hung. Shortly after, Florence was visited by a tremendous storm; a thunderbolt fell on the figure of Justice, and split the scales, one of which fell to the earth, and with it fell the ruins of a magpie's nest, containing the pearl necklace! Those scales are still the haunt of birds.

Legal Despatch.

Although the law's delay is often complained of in civil cases, yet in criminal ones it is speedy enough. An instance of summary punishment occurred at Derby, in 1814. A man was detected picking a gentleman's pocket of his pocket-book. He was taken into custody, the property found upon him, carried before a Justice, committed, a bill found by the Grand Jury, which was then sitting; he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to transportation; and all this was done in the course of two hours.

The Seven Brave Hunters

—'Her streets in blood deplore
The seven brave hunters murdered by the Moor.'

During a truce with the Moors, six Spanish cavaliers of the Order of St. James were,

while on a hunting party, surrounded and killed by a numerous body of the Moors. During the fight, in which the gentlemen sold their lives dear, a common carter, named Garcias Rodrigo, who chanced to pass that way, came generously to their assistance, and lost his life along with them. The poet, in giving all seven the same title, shows us that virtue constitutes true nobility. Don Payo de Correa, Grand Master of the Order of St. James, revenged the death of these brave unfortunates, by the sack of Tavila, where his just rage put the garrison to the sword.

Assassin of General Kleber.

The assassin who murdered General Kleber, was a Turkish peasant, of the name of Solyman Illeppy, who had secreted himself in Kleber's garden at Cairo. Kleber having put his sword and hat down in General Damas's breakfast-room, walked out in his own garden with the architect Protain, in order to survey some alterations making at his house. Having passed a well adjoining the walk, the peasant jumped out, and before Kleber could at all defend himself, plunged a stiletto into his body in five different places. The first wound was mortal, and Kleber fell without uttering a word. The architect had a small rod or rule in his hand, trusting to which for his defence, he made a gallant but vain attempt to secure the assassin, and received himself no less than nine wounds with the same stiletto; fortunately none of them proved mortal. The assassin left the spot, and went amongst the trees, where he was taken in about a quarter of an hour afterwards, by one of Kleber's guide guards, from whom he received a sabre wound on the left arm, on his making resistance. The stiletto he had buried in the ground close by him, where it was found by one of Damas's aides-de-camp. 'This instrument,' says Captain (now Commissioner) Sir Charles Boyle, 'I saw; it was about sixteen or eighteen inches long. The garden wall was surrounded by the guide guards, immediately on the report of Kleber's assassination, to prevent the escape of this man; which, however, appeared to me useless, as I am convinced, from what I saw, it was not his wish to save his own life, for he had jumped a declivity of about eight feet, which was close to the spot where he committed the act, and had crossed the place Esbiquiez. Among the many Turks constantly there, he might have passed unnoticed, and have got into any mosque he had wished in the city, where his person would have been secure.'

The assassin suffered death, by having the flesh burned off his right hand, and by being impaled, in which situation he lived one hour and forty minutes; dying without showing any fear, and declaring to the last, 'That the act which he had done was meritorious, and one for which he should be made happy in the other world.' He continued exclaiming, from the moment of his hand being burnt,

that of his death, *Tay hip*, or *That's not!* Three Sheiks of the church, whom Illeppy I made acquainted with his intention, by agreeing with them for success, had their heads taken off, and stuck on pikes round the pale on which the assassin was executed; their bodies were afterwards burnt. Two other Sheiks who were concerned, made their escape.

Corsica.

The necessity of a just and well administered system of laws to the progress of civilization among a people, was never more strikingly exemplified than in the instance of the island of Corsica. Blessed with a most genial climate, situated most favourably for commerce with all parts of the world, and politically attached to one of the most polished nations in Europe, Corsica is nevertheless without trade, without letters, and without refinement.

This phenomenon, truly extraordinary in the nineteenth century, is owing entirely to ancient divisions, and to hereditary feuds, which have from time immemorial desolated the island. And whence have these arisen? In the impunity given in this country to crimes, and to the absence of everything like justice. So familiar had the Corsicans become to homicide, that according to a report made in 1715, the assassinations committed on that island, amounted during the thirty preceding years, to the enormous number of twenty thousand, seven hundred and fifty. During the revolt against the Genoese, several Ceccaldri and Graffieri caused two orders of distinction to be executed, although they offered thirty thousand francs to be spared. This salutary example had such an effect, that for three years afterwards, not a single homicide was recorded.

Novel Plea.

A Frenchman being arraigned for a capital crime in 1821, pleaded in his defence, that having been born at the commencement of the Revolution, he had imbibed all its pernicious principles, and had never been able to discriminate between good and evil. The court disregarded the plea; the man was convicted, and sentenced to six years' imprisonment.

Turkish Logic.

Some years ago, the captain of a French ship, then lying at Alexandria, went on shore in his own boat, and proceeded towards the beach Caravansera. Meanwhile the boat's crew sauntered about the beach, when a Turk suddenly seized one of them, and cried out; which several Turks came up, and were trying the French sailor away. The cap-

tain alarmed at the uproar, turned back, and with his boat's crew followed the man, who was taken to the Cadi, or Turkish judge; but as neither the captain nor his men could understand the Turks, nor the Turks them, the French interpreter was sent for, who, when he had heard the matter, told the captain that the sailor whom the Turks had seized, had cursed Mahomet. The captain and his men were greatly astonished to hear this, as the man accused was born dumb, and had remained so ever since. The interpreter informed the judge of this, who paused some time, then turning to the French interpreter, said, 'I believe the man accused was born dumb, and has remained so ever since.' Afterwards, turning to the Turkish accuser, he said, 'I have no doubt but that this Christian has blasphemed Mahomet.' On hearing this, the French interpreter (a man much esteemed, both by Christians and Turks) begged the judge to hear him a few moments, which being granted, he told the judge that it was impossible what both parties said could be true. 'Not in the least,' replied the judge very calmly, 'for though I firmly believe, through the undoubted proofs given me, that the sailor was actually born dumb, and has remained so ever since, till he came on shore here, yet you must know, the devil has such a hatred to our most holy faith, that he gave him the power of speech for an instant, to curse our most holy prophet; therefore,' continues the judge, 'though I pity the prisoner, yet I cannot, without giving a bad example, let him go unpunished; and in compassion to his circumstances, he shall pay no more than fifty Venetian sequins.' The captain was accordingly obliged to pay the money, to save an honest man and a good mariner.

Pardon for Forgery.

At the York Assizes, in 1803, the clerk to a mercantile house in Leeds was tried on a charge of forgery, found guilty, and condemned to death. His family in Halifax was very respectable, and his father, in particular, bore an excellent character. Immediately after the sentence was passed upon the unfortunate young man, a dissenting minister of the Baptist persuasion, who had long been intimate with the father, presumed to address his majesty in a most moving petition, soliciting the pardon of the son of his friend. Fully aware that it had been almost an invariable rule with the government to grant no pardons in cases of forgery, he had little hopes of success; but, contrary to his expectations, his petition prevailed, and the reprieve was granted. That the solicitation of a private individual should have succeeded, when similar applications, urged by numbers, and supported by great interest, have uniformly failed, may excite surprise, and deserves particular observation. The following circumstances, the veracity of which may be depended upon, fully explain the singularity of the fact. In

the year 1802 a dignified divine, preaching before the royal family, happened to quote a passage illustrative of his subject from a living author, whose name he did not mention. The king, who was always remarkably attentive, was struck with the quotation, and immediately noted the passage for an inquiry. At the conclusion of the service, he asked the preacher from whom that extract had been taken; and being informed that the author was a dissenting minister in Yorkshire, he expressed a wish to have a copy of the original discourse. The royal mandate was accordingly imparted to the author, who lost no time in complying with it, accompanying the work with a very modest letter, expressive of the high sense he entertained of the honour conferred upon him. His majesty was so well pleased with the production, as to signify his readiness to serve the author. The case of the above young man soon after afforded this amiable and disinterested minister an opportunity of supplicating, at the hands of the monarch, the exercise of his prerogative of mercy, in favour of the son of his friend, as the greatest favour his majesty could confer.

Juvenile Criminal.

‘Among the children,’ says that active philanthropist, the Hon. Grey Bennet, in his evidence before the Police Committee, ‘whom I have seen in prison, a boy of the name of Leary was the most remarkable; he was about thirteen years of age, good-looking, sharp, and intelligent, and possessing a manner which seemed to indicate a character very different from that he really possessed. When I saw him, he was under sentence of death for stealing a watch, chain, and seals, from Mr. Princep’s chambers in the Temple; he had been five years in the practice of delinquency, progressively from stealing an apple off a stall, to housebreaking and highway robbery. He belonged to the Moorfields Catholic School, and there became acquainted with one Ryan in that school, by whom he was instructed in the various arts and practices of delinquency; his first attempts were at tarts, apples, &c.; next at loaves in bakers’ baskets; then parcels of halfpence on shop counters, and money-tills in shops; then to breaking shop windows, and drawing out valuable articles through the aperture, picking pockets, housebreaking, &c. Leary has often gone to school the next day with several pounds in his pockets, as his share of the produce of the previous day’s robberies; he soon became captain of a gang, generally since known as Leary’s gang, with five boys, and sometimes more, furnished with pistols, taking a horse and cart with them; and if they had an opportunity in their road, they cut off the trunks of gentlemen’s carriages, when, after opening them, and according to their contents, so would they be governed in prosecuting their further objects in that quarter; they would then divide into parties of two, sometimes only one, and leaving one with the horse

and cart, go to farm and other houses, stating their being on the way to see their families, and begging for some bread and water; by such tales, united with their youth, they obtained relief, and generally ended by robbing the house or premises. In one instance Leary was detected and taken, and committed to Maidstone gaol; but, the prosecutor not appearing against him, he was discharged. In these excursions he stayed about a week and upwards, when his share has produced him from £50 to £100. He has been concerned in various robberies in London and its vicinity, and has had property at one time amounting to £350; but when he had money, he either got robbed of it by elder thieves, who knew he had so much about him, or he lost it by gambling at flash-houses, or spent it amongst loose characters of both sexes. After committing innumerable depredations, he was detected at Mr. Derrimore’s, at Kentish Town, stealing some plate from that gentleman’s dining-room; when, several other similar robberies coming against him in that neighbourhood, he was, in compassion to his youth, placed in the Philanthropic Asylum; but being now charged with Mr. Princep’s robbery, he was taken, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death, but was afterwards respited, and returned to that institution. He is little, and well-looking; has robbed to the amount of £3000 during his five years’ career. This surprising boy has since broke out and escaped from the Philanthropic, went to his old practices, was again tried at the Old Bailey, and is transported for life.

Sentiments of Bonaparte on Suicide.

A grenadier of the French consular guard, having experienced a slight from a young woman to whom he was attached, he determined on the destruction of his life, and soon carried it into execution, by shooting himself. Bonaparte, who was then first consul, upon hearing of the transaction, directed the publication of the following paper, for the future prevention of such a cowardly practice amongst the troops.

‘A soldier ought to know how to overcome grief and melancholy arising from passion; there is as much true fortitude in suffering mental pain with firmness, as in remaining firm before the grape shot of a battery. For a soldier to abandon himself to sorrow without any resistance, to kill himself in order to avoid it, is to abandon the field of battle without having conquered.’

Youth Betrayed.

A few years ago the green of a rich bleacher in the North of Ireland had been frequently robbed at night to a very considerable amount, notwithstanding the utmost vigilance of the proprietor and his servants to protect it, and

hout the slightest clue being furnished for detection of the robber.

Effectually and repeatedly baffled by the enmity of the thief or thieves, the proprietor at length offered a reward of £100 for apprehension of any person or persons detected robbing the green.

A few days after this proclamation the master was at midnight raised from his bed by alarm of a faithful servant, 'there was somebody with a lantern crossing the green.' The master started from his bed, flew to the door; it was so; he hurried on his clothes, tied himself with a pistol, the servant flew with his loaded musket, and they cautiously sought the light. The person with the lantern a man was, as they approached, on the stoop, distinctly seen stooping and groping the ground; he was seen lifting and pulling the linen. The servant fired; the robber fell. The man and master now proceeded to examine the spot. The robber was a youth of nineteen, who resided a few fields off. The linen was cut across; bundles of it were tied up; and upon searching and examining the body, the servant, in the presence of his master, picked up a pen-knife, with the name of the unhappy youth engraved upon the blade. The evidence was conclusive, for in the morning the lantern was acknowledged by the afflicted and implicated father of the boy as his lantern. Defence was dumb. The faithful servant received the hundred pounds reward, and was, besides, promoted to be the confidential overseer of the establishment.

The faithful servant, this confidential overseer, was shortly afterwards proved to have been himself the thief, and was hanged at Tyburn for the murder of the youth whom he had cruelly betrayed.

It appeared, upon the clearest evidence, and the dying confession and description of the thief himself, that all this circumstantial evidence was preconcerted by him, not only to screen himself from the imputation of former robberies, but to get the hundred pounds reward.

The dupe, the victim, he chose for his diabolical purpose was artless, affectionate, and trusting. The boy had a favourite knife, a pen-knife, with his name engraved upon its blade. The first act of this fiend was to give him to give him that knife as a keepsake.

The evening of the fatal day the miscreant prepared the bleach green, the theatre of this melancholy tragedy, for his performance. He took the linen from the pegs in some places, cut it across in others; he turned it up in some; he tied it up in bundles, as if ready to be removed, and placed the favourite knife, as a keepsake, in one of the cuts he had himself made.

Matters being thus prepared, he invited the devoted youth to supper, and as the night grew dark, he told him to bring the lantern to him home. At supper, or after, he artfully turned the conversation upon the favourite knife, which he affected with great

concern to miss, and pretending that the last recollection he had of it, was using it on a particular spot of the bleach green, described that spot to the obliging boy, and begged him to see if it was there. He lit the lantern which he had been desired to bring with him to light him home, and with alacrity proceeded upon his fatal errand.

As soon as the monster saw his victim was completely in the snare, he gave the alarm, and the melancholy crime described was the result.

Could there have been possibly a stronger case of circumstantial evidence than this? The young man seemed actually caught in the fact. There was the knife with his name on it; the linen cut, tied up in bundles; the lantern acknowledged by his father. The time, past midnight. The master himself present, a man of the fairest character; the servant, of unblemished reputation.

Incorrigible Poacher.

In a certain principality of Germany, where the game laws are very severe, a dangerous poacher, who had long been pursued in vain, was at length taken. Before he was seized, he had contrived to hide his gun in a hollow tree. When interrogated, he confessed everything, except that he could not be brought to point out the place where he had concealed his gun; he was sentenced to several years' imprisonment and hard labour. The years of his confinement passed away, and the day of his release arrived. His wife and children expected him from the morning early, till late in the night, but in vain. At length he approached, armed as he had been when he parted from them before his arrest, threw a deer which he had killed at the feet of his terrified wife, and ordered her to dress it to celebrate his return. The first use he had made of his recovered liberty had been to go to a distant forest to look for his gun; and his first action, a repetition of the crime for which he had just endured a long and rigorous imprisonment.

Japan.

By the Emperor of Japan, almost every crime is punished with death, because disobedience to so great a potentate, is reckoned an enormous crime. The question is not so much to correct the delinquent, as to vindicate the authority of the prince. Lies spoken before the magistrates; even things which have not the appearance of a crime, for instance, a man's venturing his money at play, are punished with death.

The severity of the laws does not, however, repress crime; the number of those who are suffocated or murdered in the streets, is, by those who have visited Japan, said to be incredible; young maids and boys are carried away by force, and afterwards found exposed in public places at unseasonable hours, quite naked, and sewed in linen bags, to prevent

their knowing which way they had passed; robberies are committed in all parts; horses are stabbed, in order to bring their riders to the ground; and coaches overturned, that the ladies may be plundered.

Denmark.

Executions are rare in Denmark. A great number of those convicted of child murder, are condemned to work in spin-houses for life, and to be whipped annually, on the day when, and the spot where, the crime was committed. This mode of punishment is dreaded more than death; and since it has been adopted, has greatly prevented the frequency of the crime.

At the entrance of many towns in Denmark, a whipping-post stands conspicuous; on the top, a figure of a man is placed with a sword by his side, and a whip in his right hand. Gibbets and wheels are also placed on eminences, on which the bodies of malefactors are sometimes left after execution, to deter others from crime.

The place of execution is out of the city. Decollation by the sword, is accounted more honourable than by the axe. This is the common mode of execution; but for some more heinous crimes, the punishment is breaking upon the wheel; and in executing this on state prisoners, it has been the practice sometimes to begin with cutting off their right hands. After the sentence of a criminal is confirmed, he is allowed time to prepare for death, from eight to fourteen days, as the chaplain attending him thinks necessary. He is confined in a cell or dungeon at night, but is allowed to be in an upper room in the day.

Iceland.

The punishments for capital crimes in Iceland, are the same as those in Denmark; and the criminal is not hanged, but beheaded. It is a fact, however, that for many years, no Icelander has been found who would undertake the office of executioner, so that it was necessary for the very few who had been sentenced to suffer death, to be conveyed to Norway, there to receive the punishment for their crimes.

The common mode of punishing offences of a less heinous kind, is either whipping, or close confinement and hard labour in the *Tringhuus*, or House of Correction, for certain years, or for life.

Mirabeau.

When Mirabeau was in England, he asked a friend with whom he was dining, if it were true that twenty men had been executed that morning at Newgate? The gentleman said, if the daily papers asserted it, there is no reason to doubt the truth of it. 'Then,' replied he, with great warmth and surprise,

'the English are the most merciless people I ever heard or read of in my life.' Fortunately for Mirabeau, he did not live to witness the atrocities committed by his own countrymen during the revolution.

Lord Kenyon.

When Lord Kenyon was on the Home Circuit, a young woman was tried before him, for having stolen to the amount of forty shillings in a dwelling house. It was her first offence, and was attended with many extenuating circumstances. The prosecutor appeared, as he stated, from a sense of duty; the witnesses very reluctantly gave their evidence, and the jury still more reluctantly their verdict of guilty. The case of the poor girl excited great interest in court. The Judge passed sentence of death—she instantly fell lifeless at the bar. Lord Kenyon, whose sensibilities were not impaired by the sad duties of his office, cried out in great agitation from the bench, 'I don't mean to hang you: will nobody tell the prisoner I don't mean to hang her?'

Reclaimed Felons.

'I have (says Dr. Lettsom) been so happy as to reform a highwayman and footpad who had robbed me; and from these I think that few of our fellow creatures are so hardened, as to be impenetrable to repentance. The highwayman has since been twice in the *Gazette* promotions, as a military officer. The footpad married, and became a respectable farmer in Surrey.'

The Quakers—Pennsylvania.

If the Quakers had been the legislators of the world, they had long ago interwoven the principles of their discipline into their penal codes, and death had long ere now been abolished as a punishment, except for the worst of crimes. As far, however, as they have had any power in legislation, they have procured an attention to these principles. George Fox remonstrated with the Judges of his time on the subject of capital punishments; but the Quakers having no seats in the legislature, and no predominant interest with the members of it, they have hitherto been unable to effect any change in England on the subject. In Pennsylvania, however, where they were the original colonists, they have had influence, and have contributed to set up a model of jurisprudence worthy of the imitation of the world.

When William Penn first went to America, and founded that colony which is known by his name, he formed a code of laws chiefly on Quaker principles, in which, however, death was inscribed as a punishment, but it was confined to murder. Queen Anne set this code aside, and substituted the statute and common law of the mother country. It was,

ever, resumed in time, and acted upon for years; when it was again set aside by England. From this time it continued dormant until the independence of America. No sooner had the event taken place which rendered the Americans their own legislators, than the Pennsylvanian Quakers began to aim at the amelioration of the penal laws. In this they were joined by several individuals of other denominations, among whom was Dr. Wm. L. G. McKim; and these acting in union, procured from the legislature of Pennsylvania, a reform of the criminal code, in 1786, by which the punishment of death was restricted to wilful premeditated murder.

This act, which was called an experiment, was carried by a very small majority, and limited to five years' duration; it was opposed by the authority of all the Judges, one only excepted. When the period arrived at which the act terminated, it was unanimously re-considered as a permanent measure, not as an experiment, but a truth sanctioned by indisputable facts, and with the concurrence of all the Judges, who had the magnanimity to declare a total alteration which their opinions had undergone, from the extraordinary success which attended the experiment.

The new law was entitled, 'An act for the better prevention of crimes, and for abolishing the punishment of death in certain cases;' it declares, that 'the design of all punishment is to *prevent* the commission of crimes, and to repair the injury that hath been, hereby, done to society, or the individual; it *hath been found by experience*, that the objects are better obtained by moderate, certain penalties, than by severe and excessive punishments: therefore, no crime hereafter committed, except murder in the first degree, shall be punished with death, in the state of Pennsylvania.'

A few years afterwards, one of the Judges published a minute detail of the comparative rate of crime in the United States, prior and subsequent to the alteration of the laws, by which it appears that crimes, and especially crimes of enormity, had decreased, but that, given number of persons tried, the number of convictions had nearly doubled. He stated some curious facts. In Pennsylvania, where the punishment for forgery was mitigated, the crime had decreased. In New York, where there had been no such mitigation, the crime had gone on increasing. In some of the states, the farmers, in consequence of their heavy losses from horse-stealing, petitioned the legislature to protect them more effectually, by enacting the penalty of death for the offence. Their request was complied with. But so inefficient was the result, that the same parties afterwards prayed for a mitigation of the penalty, alleging, that the severity generated a reluctance to prosecute, and that reluctance reproduced the crime. Again their request was attended to, and the crime was found to decrease.

The doctrine of the greater efficacy of a mild law, adopted as it was at first in Penn-

sylvania, has won its way, by its own strength, through every one of the United States; and opinions, which forty years ago were deemed theoretical and extravagant, are now universally received and acknowledged as indisputable truths, throughout the whole of that great republic in which they have been tried.

Gaol in Philadelphia.

As there is now but one capital offence in Pennsylvania, punishments for other offences are made up of fine and imprisonment, and labour; and these are awarded separately or conjointly, according to the magnitude of the offence. When criminals have been convicted and sent to the great gaol of Philadelphia, to undergo the punishment, it is expected of them that they should maintain themselves out of their daily labour, that they should pay for their board and washing, and also for the use of their different implements of labour; and that they should defray the expenses of their commitment, of their prosecutions and their trials. An account, therefore, is regularly kept against them; and if, at the expiration of the term of their punishment, there should be a surplus of money in their favour, arising out of the produce of their work, it is given to them on their discharge.

In consequence of the admirable regulations by which the prison is conducted, those who visit the criminals of Philadelphia, in the hours of their labour, have rather the idea of a large manufactory, than a gaol; they see carpenters, weavers, joiners, nailmakers, &c., all busily employed, with nothing but order and regularity among them; and as no chains are to be seen in the prison, the visitors seem to forget that the men they behold are criminals, and look upon them rather as the free and honest labourers of a community, following their respective occupations.

Such has been the effect of this system, that it has been productive of great advantages, both to criminals and to the state; the state has experienced a diminution of crimes to the amount of one-half, since the change of the penal system; and the criminals have been restored in a great proportion from the gaol to the community as reformed persons; indeed, their conduct during confinement, has generally been such as to obtain a remission of some part of their sentence.

Mercy Too Late.

The case of William Townlèy, who was executed at Gloucester in April, 1811, was attended with circumstances particularly unfortunate. On the Friday night preceding his execution, a reprieve for him was put into the post-office of Hereford, addressed by mistake to the Under-Sheriff of Herefordshire, instead of Gloucestershire; the letter was delivered to Messrs. Bird and Woollaston, Under-Sheriffs for the county of Hereford, about half-past eleven o'clock on the following

day. As soon as the importance of its contents were ascertained, an express was humanely sent off with the utmost celerity to Gloucester; but the messenger arrived too late; the unfortunate man had been turned off twenty minutes before, and was then suspended on the drop.

Ingenious Device.

The French police being unable to discover any traces of the perpetrator of a very extraordinary robbery in Lyons, in the year 1780, resorted to the expedient of sending an officer to the Bicêtre, disguised as a prisoner. He acted his part extremely well, and interested his audience highly by his account of this exploit. In this assembly of connoisseurs in guilt, one of them exclaimed, 'It is only Philip who could execute such a stroke.' This led to the discovery, that Philip was in fact the leader of the gang.

Mitigation of Punishment.

The linen-bleachers of England and Ireland, finding their property peculiarly exposed to depredation, ascribed the impunity with which the crime was committed, to the severity of the law, which caused a reluctance to prosecute. In 1811, they presented a petition to parliament praying for protection, and declaring their conviction that 'by certainty being substituted for severity of punishment, crimes would be diminished, and their property better secured.' They prayed that Parliament would alter the punishment of death in case of robbing bleach-greens, into transportation for life, or a period of confinement in penitentiary houses.

In the House of Commons, the prayer of the petition was readily granted, and the House of Lords with some reluctance determined to punish those romantic petitioners with the fulfilment of their prayer, and to inflict on them the penalty of conceded wishes, with what effect was soon witnessed.

Returns were made some years afterwards from the county of Lancaster, the county in which this species of trade is principally carried on, including a period of twenty years, thirteen of which were anterior, and seven subsequent to the mitigation of the law. Mr. Buxton, in his able and eloquent speech in the House of Commons on the severity of punishment, in May, 1821, thus draws the comparison. 'I shall,' says he, 'take the first five years during which the crime was capital, and compare them with the last five years during which it was not capital. Now, if I prove that this offence has increased, but only in the same proportion with other offences, I prove my point. But if I go a step further, and prove that, while all other crimes have increased, this alone has remained stationary, *à fortiori*, I prove my point; but what if I go a step, and a very great step further, and prove that, while all other offences have in-

creased with the most melancholy rapidity, this, and this alone, has decreased as rapidly,—that there is only one exception to the universal augmentation of crime, and that one exception, the case in which you have reduced the penalty of your law; if I do this, and upon evidence which cannot be shaken, have I not a right to call upon the noble lord opposite, and upon his majesty's ministers, either to invalidate my facts, or to admit my conclusion?

'Well, then, all other crimes have increased in the county of Lancaster. During the last five years, highway robbery—the number more than doubled those of the first five years; burglary—the number more than trebled; horse-stealing—the number more than quadrupled; stealing in dwelling-houses—the number increased more than elevenfold. Then we come to the offence of stealing from bleaching-grounds, and we find twenty-eight in the first five years, nine in the five last; that is, the offence has decreased two-thirds. But we have always contended that, by reducing the penalty, you augment the certainty of conviction. It appears by the official returns, that during the former period, at least one-third were acquitted; and that during the latter period, there has not been one single acquittal.

'In Ireland, the results have not been less favourable. Mr. Hancock of Lisburn, who had invested a considerable sum of money in this species of trade, says, "that though, from the general increase of crime, arising from the peculiar state of these countries, bleach-ground robberies have not latterly diminished, yet that the change of punishment of death has not had the smallest tendency to increase this particular crime; but, on the contrary, convictions have been in much greater proportion than under the old law. Prosecutors now act vigorously, witnesses give their testimony willingly; and especially jurors, relieved from the compunctious visitings of nature, feel grateful for the relief, and willingly return verdicts of condemnation when death is not the consequence." He then goes on to say, "It is worthy of observation, and tends to show the benefit of the change in the law, that convictions have multiplied so greatly since 1811. In my opinion, the protection to bleach-grounds is much increased, and things probably would have been much worse under the old law, owing to the greater number of culprits who would have escaped."

'This,' continues Mr. Buxton, 'though satisfactory, was not conclusive. But I have since received from Mr. Walter Bourne, clerk of the crown, a return of the number of commitments and convictions for bleach-ground robberies on the north-east circuit of Ulster, for twenty years; and with it I pursue the same method as with the returns from Lancaster. I take the first five years, and compare them with the last five, and these are the results. In the first five years that the offence was capital, the number of robberies was sixty-one; in the last five, when the offence was not capital, the number was forty-two.

He then returns the question, Has any other facility of conviction resulted from a relaxation of the law? It has; while the law rigid, it was hardly possible to prove a conviction. Out of sixty-two persons committed, fifty-eight or fifty-nine had not been executed. But since that alteration, though the number of trials have decreased nearly half, the number of convictions have increased five-fold.'

The Vardarelli Band.

The Vardarelli band, so called from their chief and his brothers, had for more than two years committed great depredations in Apulia, at length they were allowed to form a regular corps, still commanded by the same chief, who received a monthly salary, and engaged to secure the provinces which he so long ravaged from all similar attacks. In 1818, the remains of this band entered themselves to the general commanding at Foggia, and had an altercation with him. The general finally commanded two leaders to repair to his own apartment to speak to them; this they objected to without their arms, which they declared they would never part from; and it is supposed that the language they made use of in the course of their argument so exasperated the officer, that he roughly pushed one of them back, who was using threatening gestures, on which the other fired his musket at him, but having missed his mark, was shot down on the spot by the sentry at the gate; this was the signal for an attack from his comrades, that was immediately answered by a shower of musketry from the troops who were drawn out close to them, which killed several, and spread consternation among the ranks of townspeople who had assembled on the spot. Four of the band, who had presence of mind to spring upon their horses, escaped in different directions out of the town, though pursued by cavalry, and fired at as they fled.

Another portion were made prisoners; a third division sought security in a cellar, the first place of refuge which offered itself, which, having one very low entrance, afforded them a defensible asylum for some time; the depth and darkness of this receptacle made it difficult to attack them with success, for they killed a soldier, and wounded several others, who ventured too near the entrance. Of this last desperate set, four, however, gave themselves up, and made known the number that remained. In order to bring to as speedy a termination as possible the dismay and agitation which this event had spread throughout the city, two of those who had been last taken were sent in to their comrades, with their hands tied, to persuade them to surrender, and to inform them that they persevered in a resistance, which, from the local nature of their retreat, must be unavailing, a straw fire would be lighted at the cellar, as the only means of hastening their compliance or destruction. The unfortunate

men never returned, and no answer being given, this threat was put into actual execution, and the aperture blocked up with stones. Imagination pictures their situation as most horrible; but its terrors were eluded by the last resource of despair. Two hours after, the cellar was entered without opposition, and their lifeless bodies covered with wounds, indicated the death they had received at each other's hands.

The Curate of Louvaine.

In February, 1818, a curate in the suburbs of Louvaine, was sent to fulfil the last duties with a sick person. Having discharged them, he returned to his own habitation. It was midnight. In passing near a house, he perceived a light, and the door open. He entered, and what was his surprise at seeing a bloody corpse stretched near the entrance! He recognised it to be the body of the master of the house. A little farther he observed that of his unfortunate wife, killed in the same manner. At length, by the assistance of a light, he discovered in the chimney-place legs, which gave several convulsive movements. It was the female servant suspended by the neck, in the last agonies of death. He hastened to cut the cord, and with much difficulty restored her to the use of her senses. He interrogated the girl respecting the circumstances of this horrid deed; she hesitated for some time to give any explanation. At last she told the curate, that the principal author of these assassinations was his own nephew; she gave such an account of him, that the curate could not misconceive her description, and she also described the villains that accompanied him. Furnished with this information, the curate pursued his way to his own residence, resolved to cause his nephew, with the murderers, to be arrested. Before he reached home, he applied to the mayor, declared to him what he had seen and heard, and requested him to assist him by every means which his functions would admit of, to succeed in his plan. The mayor, with much prudence, employed the measures necessary in such a case; and having arranged the plan with the curate, the latter returned home. He there found his nephew, who appeared watching for his return. 'I have had a painful visit,' said he to him, 'and I want some refreshment; go down into the cellar, and bring me a bottle of wine, that we may partake of it.'

The nephew hesitated, and endeavoured to persuade his uncle, that he would do better to go to bed. 'Well, then, I will go to the cellar myself,' said the curate, 'since you fear to put yourself out of the way to do me a service.' In effect, he arose to execute his design, when the nephew, with an eagerness accompanied with excuses, told him he was going to do what he desired. He descended, but scarcely had he entered, when the curate closed the door upon him. The nephew thought at first, that it was only a trick; but

soon after, the mayor arrived with an escort, and the cellar door was opened. They found there the nephew, with fifteen brigands, companions of his crimes. They recognised them to be the individuals that the servant had described. They were disarmed, bound, and conducted to the neighbouring prisons.

Disparity of Punishments.

At a sessions in Charleston, in the United States of America, a man for killing a negro was only fined £50; while two other persons for negro stealing, were sentenced to be hanged. The disproportion of punishment in other States of the Union, is not less remarkable. In the district of Ohio, a man for the frequent embezzlement of letters from the United States mail, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. Another man convicted at Richmond of stealing a missal from a church, was condemned to three years' confinement in the Penitentiary.

Blood's Attempt to Steal the Crown.

At the time that Blood made his daring attempt to steal the crown of England in 1673, the care of the regalia was entrusted to Talbot Edwards, to whom Blood had about three weeks before introduced himself in the habit of a parson, with a long cloak, cassock, and canonical girdle, and accompanied by a woman whom he called his wife. While they were looking at the regalia, the lady feigned indisposition, which called forth the kind offices of Mrs. Edwards, the keeper's wife, who having invited her into the house, she soon recovered; and on their departure, they professed their gratitude for the civility.

A few days afterwards, Blood returned with a present of four pair of gloves to Mrs. Edwards, and at length so far insinuated himself into the good opinion of the family, that he proposed a match between a pretended nephew and Mrs. Edwards's daughter. He was invited to dinner, and said grace with much seeming devotion, concluding with a prayer for the king, queen, and royal family. After dinner, he went up to see the rooms, and observing a handsome case of pistols, expressed a desire to buy them, by which he no doubt thought of disarming the house against the period intended for the execution of his design. On his going away, he appointed a day and hour when he would bring his nephew to see the young lady, which was the very day that he made his daring attempt.

On that day, the good old gentleman had got up ready to receive his guest, and the daughter was in her best dress to entertain her expected lover; when Parson Blood, with three more, came to the jewel house, all armed with rapier blades in their canes, and every one a dagger and a brace of pocket pistols. Two of his companions entered in with him, on pretence of seeing the crown,

and the third stayed at the door, as if to look after the young lady, a jewel of a more charming description, but in reality as a watch. The daughter, who thought it not modest to come down till she was called, sent the maid to take a view of the company, and bring a description of her gallant; and the servant conceiving that he was the intended bridegroom who stayed at the door, being the youngest of the party, returned to soothe the anxiety of her young mistress, with the idea she had formed of his person.

Blood told Mr. Edwards that they would not go up-stairs till his wife came, and desired him to show his friends the crown, to pass the time till then; and they had no sooner entered the room, and the door as usual shut, than a cloak was thrown over the old man's head, and a gag put into his mouth.

Thus secured, they told him, that their resolution was to have the crown, globe, and sceptre; and if he would quietly submit to it, they would spare his life; otherwise, he was to expect no mercy. He thereupon endeavoured to make all the noise he possibly could, to be heard above; they then knocked him down with a wooden mallet, and told him, that if yet he would lie quietly, they would spare his life; but if not, upon his next attempt to discover them, they would kill him. Mr. Edwards, however, according to his own account, was not intimidated by this threat, but strained himself to make the greater noise, and in consequence received several more blows on the head with the mallet, and was stabbed in the belly; this again brought the poor old man to the ground, where he lay for some time in so senseless a state, that one of the villains pronounced him dead. Edwards had come a little to himself, and hearing this, lay quietly, conceiving it best to be thought so. The booty was now to be disposed of, and one of them, named Parrot, a silk-dyer in Southwark, put the orb in his breeches. Blood held the crown under his cloak, and the third was about to file the sceptre in two, in order that it might be placed in a bag brought for that purpose; but, fortunately, the son of Mr. Edwards, who had been in Flanders with Sir John Talbot, and, on landing in England, had obtained leave to come away post to visit his father, happened to arrive while this scene was acting; and on coming to the door, the person that stood sentinel asked with whom he would speak? to which he answered, that he belonged to the house; and perceiving the person to be a stranger, told him, that if he had any business with his father, that he would acquaint him with it, and so hastened up-stairs to salute his friends. This unexpected accident spread confusion among the party, and they instantly decamped with the crown and orb, leaving the sceptre yet unfiled.

The aged keeper now raised himself upon his legs, forced the gag from his mouth, and cried *treason! murder!* which being heard by his daughter, who was perhaps anxiously expecting far other sounds, ran out, and re-

ted the cry. The alarm now became general, and young Edwards and his brother-in-law, Captain Beckman, ran after the conspirators; whom a warder put himself in a position to stop, but Blood discharged a pistol at him, and he fell, although unhurt, and the others proceeded safely to the next post, where one Sil, who had been a soldier under Cromwell, stood sentinel; but he offered no resistance, and they accordingly passed the bridge. Horses were waiting for them at Catherine's gate, and as they ran that along the Tower Wharf, they themselves did not stop the rogues; by which they escaped on unsuspected, till Captain Beckman took them. Blood fired another pistol at the warder, but missed him, and was seized. He wore the cloak of this daring villain was on his crown; and although he saw himself a prisoner, he yet had the impudence to smile for his prey; and when it was finally taken from him, said, 'It was a gallant attempt, however unsuccessful: it was for a nation.'

Edwards was also taken; but Hunt, Blood's brother-in-law, reached his horse and rode off, as did two others of the accomplices; but he was stopped, and taken into custody. Blood and his associates, after being a short time in prison, were pardoned; he represented to the king that he was connected with a formidable man, who would revenge the punishment inflicted on any of its members.

Severity of the Law.

On a debate on the Privately Stealing Bill of 1808, Mr. Windham opposed the principle of making transportation the minimum of punishment for such an offence. There might, he argued, very justly exist doubts as to the degree of criminality existing on the part of the offender, and certainly there should be no necessary restriction laid on, with respect to the equalization of the punishment to the crime itself. He mentioned an instance of extreme severity of the law, in sentencing a young woman to transportation, for bringing in a sort of jest stolen one of her companion's bonnets; and who, after a considerable time passed in captivity, made her escape, some daring exiles, to the port of Timorina, in an open boat, after a passage of several thousand miles, through a most stormy and enduring the most unparalleled sufferings.

Execution in Prussia

The execution of criminals in Prussia, is distinguished by a species of cruelty, worthy the worst days of the Inquisition; yet Prussia is a country that boasts a high degree of civilization. A traveller who was at Berlin in 1819, gives the following account of the execution of a man for murder. 'The execution of the Prussian capital takes place about a quarter of a mile from the gate of Oranienburg. A triangular gibbet is raised in the

centre of an extensive plain, commanding a view of the city; attached to this gibbet is a stone platform, lightly railed in with iron, so as to admit of all that takes place being distinctly viewed by the spectators. A large grave was dug in front of it. The ground was kept by a detachment of lancers, formed in hollow squares, and enfiladed round the execution place by an inner square of the infantry guard. About half an hour before the appearance of the criminal, twelve persons, executioners, officers of police, and two little boys as assistants, mounted the scaffold, and fixed the strangling cords. At length the buzz of the surrounding multitude, the flourishing of naked sabres, and the galloping of the officers, announced the slow approach of the criminal upon a hurdle drawn by six horses. On his approach, the word of command flew through the ranks, arms presented, drums beat, and colours and lancers' flags were raised, until he had mounted the scaffold. During the yet short space that remained for him to make his last, his expiring peace with his offended Maker, no ecclesiastic, as in England, appeared to gild the horrors of eternity in those awful moments, when religion arrays itself in her brightest robes, and bids the expiring criminal sink into her everlasting arms with hope, if not with security; no dying and repentant prayer closed the quivering lips of the blood-stained murderer. Never (continues the narrator), never shall I forget the one bitter look of imploring agony that he threw around him, as almost immediately on stepping on the scaffold, his coat was rudely torn from off his shoulders. He was then thrown down, the cords fixed round his neck, which were drawn by the executioner until strangulation almost commenced, or at least until the luxation of the neck was effected. Another executioner then approached, bearing in his hands a heavy wheel bound with iron, with which he violently struck the legs, stomach, arms, and chest, and lastly the head of the criminal. I was unfortunately near enough to witness his mangled and bleeding body still convulsed. It was then carried down for interment, and in less than a quarter of an hour from the beginning of his torture, the corpse was completely covered with earth! Several large stones which were thrown upon him, hastened his last gasp: he was mangled into eternity.'

The Criminals' Grave.

In Rome there is a burying-place appropriated to malefactors, which is opened to the public on the 29th of August. Adjoining to an elegant church, is a chapel, which makes one side of a court, and on each of the other three sides, is a portico supported by Doric pillars. The women are buried in the middle of the pavement of the front portico, and the men in one of the side porticos. The latter are interred in the same dress in which they are hanged.

In the burying ground are marble stones, in which are circular apertures for the interment of those that are executed. Round these stones is inscribed the following brief but expressive prayer :

*Domine, cum veneris judicare,
Noli nos condemnare.*

O Lord, when thou shalt come to judge, do not thou condemn us.

The Saddler of Bawtry.

It was formerly the custom to present a bowl of ale to malefactors on their way to execution. The county of York, which strongly adheres to its ancient usages, was the last place where this custom continued. A saddler of Bawtry lost his life in consequence of declining the refreshment ; as had he stopped as usual, his reprieve, which was actually on the road, would have arrived in time enough to have saved him. Hence arose the saying, that the saddler of Bawtry was hanged for leaving his ale.

The Regicides.

It has been remarked by Bishop Burnett, 'that the regicides were odious beyond expression, yet the *odiousness of the crime began to be much flattered by the frequent executions* ; and, therefore, when Sir Henry Vane was brought to the scaffold, lest his words should leave impressions on the hearers to the disadvantage of the government, drummers were placed under the scaffold, who, as soon as he began to address the people, upon a sign given, struck up with their drums. After being thus repeatedly interrupted, and even when he was taking leave of his friends, he gave over, and died with so much composure, that it was generally thought that the government had lost more than it had gained by his death.'

This was not the only instance of the ungenerous insults towards the republican sufferers at the Restoration. When Hugh Peters was carried on a sledge to the scaffold, he was made to sit within the rails, and see the execution of Mr. Cook. When the latter was cut down to be quartered, Colonel Turner ordered the Sheriff's men to bring Mr. Peters near, *that he might see it* ; and when soon after the hangman rubbed his blood-stained hands together, he tauntingly asked, 'Come, how do you like this work, Mr. Peters?' He calmly replied, 'Friend, you do not well to trample on a dying man.'

Rome.

The want of classifying culprits, which is one of the great evils of English discipline, is much worse at Rome, where a youth, who in a moment of violent resentment of some deep injury or insult, takes up a stone and throws it at his antagonist, is often shut up for a

whole year with murderers, assassins, and other malefactors of the worst description. The severity of punishment has, however, in modern times been much mitigated.

A very horrid sort of punishment was formerly inflicted under the criminal laws of Rome for trivial faults. The offender was hoisted up by means of a rope fastened to his arms, behind his back, and was then suddenly dropped down with a jerk, by which process his shoulders were generally dislocated ; and when this happened to a labourer or artisan, who was thereby prevented from earning his family's bread, suicide was usually the result. This punishment has now been entirely abolished. It is replaced by the *cavaletto*, which, though administered on too slight occasions, is not likely to produce such dreadful consequences. The criminal is tied on a table with his breast downwards, and receives a certain number of blows. He is not stripped for this infliction, but his clothes are drawn so tight by his position, that he must feel the instrument of correction almost as acutely as if he were. Some of these culprits, however, mind it so little, that they laugh and jest all the time they are undergoing it, naming a saint at each lash, till they have received the whole portion. The *cavaletto* is applied to those who speak too freely of the government, who play at quoits or other games at forbidden times, who create disturbances at theatres, or commit other offences of similar magnitude. The spectators of a game are liable to be punished as severely as those who are actors in it. But the punishment is frequently evaded by playing on the steps, or within the precincts of a church, which is a sacred asylum. Strange ! that religion should step in to shield offenders against the provisions of laws, made for the sole purpose of preventing religious hours and religious seasons from being profaned ! If they braved only their magistrates, nothing could save them ; but when they at the same time brave their God, they have nothing to fear !

A recent traveller to Rome, witnessed an execution there in 1818 : the culprit was a man who had murdered his father ; the murder was discovered in a singular manner. The disappearance of the deceased had given rise to inquiry, and the officers of police went to his cottage, where, on examining his son, they learned that his father had gone out to work as usual, a few days before, and had not been seen since. As the officers were continuing their search in the neighbourhood, their attention was excited by observing a dog lying in a lone place, who seemed to endeavour to attract their notice, by scratching on some new-turned earth. Their curiosity was excited by something peculiar in his action and manner, to the spot where they found the body. It would seem that the dog must have been an unobserved witness of his master's murder, and had not forsaken his grave. On returning to the cottage with the body, the son was so struck with the discovery made by the officers, by means which he could not divine, that concluding it must have been by supernatural

nation, he made a full confession of his crime; that he had killed his father with a dagger, at the instigation of his mother, and dragged him to that lone place, where he executed him. The mother was condemned to imprisonment for life, the son to the guillotine. Execution, which never takes place until the culprit is supposed to be brought to a due degree of penitence, was delayed nearly five days. At last, the bell rung; the host was brought from a neighbouring church, that the sacrament might be administered, and afterwards the criminal was led out, bearing two priests, a crucifix, and a black cloth with death's head upon it, being led before him. He mounted the scaffold with a steady step, and did not flinch till he stooped to kiss his head into the groove prepared to receive it. This was the trying moment; all that remained was but the work of an instant; his body was severed from his body with such facility, that it seemed to possess sense and consciousness for a few seconds afterwards. Moore says that the Roman populace executed in a serious and compassionate manner; in one which he witnessed, an old woman said with an exalted voice, 'Now thy soul is in heaven;' and the multitude around seemed all inclined to hope the

Gibbeting.

The Roman law permitted the murderer to be taken down from the gibbet after execution, as a comfortable sight to the friends and relations of the deceased. Thus Horace:

*Ecce furtum feci, nec fugi, si mihi dicat
quis: Habes pretium; loris non ureris,
sed moris.*
*Non hominem occidi; non pasces in cruce
corvos.*

The Mosaic law directed the body of the criminal to be buried on the day of his death, so that the land might not be defiled. It may be much doubted, whether there is wisdom in the choice which the laws of England have made on this point, of the remains of the emperors in preference to the laws of Moses. The leaving human remains on gibbets, as is still the case in some places in England, by forcing a familiarity with such objects, can have no other effect than to blunt the sentiments and destroy the violent prejudices of the people.

Madeira.

On the island of Madeira, assassinations are frequent, which is ascribed in a great measure to the penal laws not being enforced. It is thought to be, for death is seldom inflicted even for murder. Interposition is usually made by some person, in favour of the criminal, by a form termed *empentio*; and this friendly interposition is made by the priest, though the crime should be of the most heinous dye, yet it is considered a virtue, and

even a point of honour, out of respect to the application, to protect him. To such an extravagant height do the Portuguese in Madeira carry their chivalry!

Dissecting Criminals.

Capital punishments are not only prejudicial to society from the example of barbarity they furnish, but they multiply crimes instead of preventing them; and although increase of punishment may suddenly check, yet it does not in the end diminish the number of offenders.

In 1752, the British Parliament passed an Act for the better preventing the horrid crime of murder, by which, in order, as the Act stated, 'to add further terror to the punishment of death,' it was directed that the body of the criminal should be delivered at Surgeons' Hall, to be dissected and anatomized. This expedient, it is said, carried some terror with it at first, but the impression soon wore off; for on comparing the annual average of convictions for twenty-three years previous and subsequent to the statute, it was found that the number of murders had not decreased.

Peter the Great.

When the Empress Eudoxia was sentenced by her husband, Peter the Great, to undergo the punishment of the knout, on a charge of infidelity, she no sooner saw the dreadful apparatus, than to avoid the torture, she readily confessed every species of criminality they were inclined to lay to her charge. She owned every amorous intrigue with which she was accused, and of which, to all appearance till that horrible moment, she never had the least idea. Eudoxia was, however, condemned to undergo the discipline, which was administered in full chapter, by the hands of two ecclesiastics. But what is more remarkable, she persisted in her last declaration, and even confirmed it when confronted with Glebow, her pretended accomplice in guilt.

Glebow, on the other hand, more unshaken, and more devoted to truth, endured several times the torture of the knout without the least sign of terror. He maintained that Eudoxia was absolutely innocent, notwithstanding the pretended acknowledgments extorted from her fears, by the prospect of punishment. In vain he endured the most unheard of tortures, for the space of six weeks, at the end of which he was impaled; when in this horrible situation, the Czar, who was eager to sacrifice Eudoxia, came to conjure him to speak the truth; but the mangled expiring body opened its mouth, and exclaimed, 'Go, tyrant, and let me die in peace!'

Abraham Lapuchin was at first condemned to be broken on the wheel, and afterwards to be beheaded; but the moment he laid his head on the block, already stained with the blood of preceding victims, the emperor again changed his punishment, granting him life,

but ordered his tongue to be cut out, and then banished him to Siberia.

Eudoxia was afterwards shut up in a frightful dungeon, deprived of all her domestics, whom she had hitherto retained, as the companions of her sorrow, and reduced to the necessity of performing the most menial offices herself; nor was she set at liberty till the death of the Empress Catherine, which took place two years after the decease of Peter.

The Knout.

The only capital punishment in Russia, is for the crime of treason; but the common punishment of the *knout* is often dreaded more than death, and sometimes the criminal has endeavoured to bribe the executioner to kill him. This punishment seldom causes immediate death, but death is often the consequence of it. The knout whip is fixed to a wooden handle a foot long, and consists of several thongs, about two feet in length, twisted together, to the end of which is fastened a single tough thong of a foot and a half in length, tapering towards a point, and capable of being changed by the executioner when too much softened by the blood of the criminal.

When the philanthropic Howard was in Petersburg, he saw two criminals, a man and a woman, suffer the punishment of the knout. They were conducted from prison by about fifteen hussars and ten soldiers. When they had arrived at the place of punishment, the hussars formed themselves into a ring round the whipping-post; the drum beat a minute or two, and then some prayers were repeated, the populace taking off their hats. The woman was first taken, and after being roughly stripped to the waist, her hands and feet were bound with cords to a post made for the purpose. A servant attended the executioner, and both were stout men. The servant first marked his ground, and struck the woman five times on the back; every stroke seemed to penetrate deep into her flesh; but his master thinking him too gentle, pushed him aside, took his place, and gave all the remaining strokes himself, which were evidently more severe. The woman received twenty-five blows, and the man sixty. 'I (continues Mr. Howard) pressed through the hussars, and counted the number as they were chalked on a board for the purpose. Both the criminals seemed but just alive, especially the man, who had yet strength enough remaining to receive a small present with some signs of gratitude. I saw the woman in a very weak condition some days after, but could not find the man any more.'

Industrious Culprit.

In the year 1782, a man was convicted of a robbery, and condemned to die; but as there appeared some favourable circumstances in

the case, his sentence was mitigated, and he was sent for seven years to work upon the Thames. Three years afterwards he was again arraigned at the bar of the Court, for having been found at large before the term of his punishment had expired, and was again condemned to die. It appeared from the evidence produced on his trial, that the moment he escaped from the lighter, he went to a watch-maker, and entreated him to teach him the business; his wish was granted, and the fugitive applied himself to his new trade with such indefatigable assiduity, that in a few weeks he gained sufficient to support himself, and from that time, to the moment he was taken, he had employed himself in such unremitting labour, that he had not stirred out of his room for eight months together.

Munich.

At Munich, there are two prisons for criminals. One, in the Town House, has a dark damp dungeon, down seventeen steps, where the instruments of torture are deposited. The other consists of about fifteen cells, twelve feet by seven, and a black torture room. Here is a table covered with black cloth and fringe; six chairs for the magistrates and secretaries, covered also with black cloth, are elevated above the floor, and painted black. Various engines of torture, some of which are stained with blood, hang around the room. When the criminals suffer the candles are lighted, for the windows are shut close, to prevent their cries from being heard abroad. Two crucifixes are presented to the view of the unhappy objects. 'But (says Mr. Howard) it is too shocking to relate the different modes of cruelty; even women are not spared.'

Antwerp.

In the prison at Antwerp there are two rooms for citizens, and above there is a cage about six feet and a half square, into which criminals are put before the torture. A criminal while he suffers the torture, is clothed in a long shirt, has his eyes bound, and a physician and surgeon attend him. When a confession is forced from him, and he has had some wine, he is required to sign his confession and about forty-eight hours afterwards he is executed.

In a small dungeon, is a stone seat, such is often seen in old prison towers, on which it is said that formerly prisoners were suffocated by brimstone, when their families wished to avoid the disgrace of a public execution.

The Inquisition.

This most hateful of all tribunals, was introduced into Spain in the year 1478; and into Portugal, at the pressing solicitation of King John the Third, about the year 1536. From

rst establishment, until the recent revolution in those countries, its power had been checked, and the details of its proceedings, such as have transpired, chill us with horror. In Spain alone, from the year 1481 to 1588, not fewer than 32,382 persons were burnt alive; 17,690, burnt in effigy; and 50, imprisoned for various periods, with confiscation of the whole of their property. The number of victims sacrificed by this tribunal, diminished in proportion to the increase of knowledge. Thus Torquemada, the first Grand Inquisitor, in the course of fifteen years, had upwards of 10,000 persons burnt alive; and nearly 100,000 imprisoned, with confiscation of property; during the first twenty years of the reign of the late King of Spain, not a single person was burnt alive, only one burnt in effigy, and forty-two imprisoned.

It is not by notice the various means by which the victims of the Inquisition were murdered, and all the tortures that malice could prompt to man ingenuity invent, would but be to diminish crimes at which humanity would shrink with horror. For independent of its secret murders and murders, it made a sort of carnal destruction.

The last act of the inquisitorial tragedy, the *Auto da Fé*, which in the Romish Church was a sort of gaol delivery, appointed for the punishment of heretics, and the absolution of the innocently accused, as often as a competent number of prisoners were convicted of heresy, either by their own explicit confession, or on the evidence of witnesses.

The *Auto da Fé*, to describe it in the words of an eye-witness, is generally held on some festival, that the execution may pass with more awe; at least, it is always on a Sunday. When one of these dreadful scenes is about to take place, there is a procession of Dominican friars; after which come the penitents, all in black coats without sleeves, barefooted, and bearing a wax candle in their hands. These are followed by the penitents, who have narrowly escaped being burnt, who over their black coats have flames painted in an inverted position. Next come the relapsed and negated, who are to be burnt, with flames on their habits pointing upwards. These are followed by such as profess themselves contrary to the faith of Rome, who in addition to habits like the last, have their breasts painted on their breasts, with dogs, devils, and devils, all open-mouthed, around

each prisoner is attended by a familiar of the Inquisition, and those to be burnt have a Jesuit on each hand, who continually exhort them to abjure. The prisoners are led by familiars on horseback, inquisitors on foot, and last of all, the Inquisitor General on a white horse, led by two men with black hats, and green hat-bands.

A scaffold is erected large enough for two thousand people; at one end of it are the Inquisitors, at the other the prisoners. After a sermon in praise of the

Inquisition, a priest ascends the scaffold, recites the final sentence of those who are to be put to death, and delivers them to the secular arm, earnestly beseeching at the same time the secular power not to touch their blood or put their lives in danger. The prisoners being thus in the hands of the civil magistrate, are loaded with chains, then carried to the secular gaol, and in an hour or two brought before the civil judge; who after asking in what religion they intend to die, pronounces sentence on such as declare they die in the Communion of the Church of Rome, that they shall be first strangled, and then burnt to ashes; those that die in any other faith are doomed to be burnt alive.

The condemned are then immediately carried to the Ribera, the place of execution, where there are as many stakes set up as there are prisoners to be burnt. The negative and relapsed being first strangled and then burnt; the professed mount their stakes by a ladder, and the Jesuits, after several repeated exhortations to be reconciled to the church, consign them to eternal destruction, and then leave them to the fiend, who they tell them stands at their elbow to carry them into torments. On this a great shout is raised, and the cry is, '*Let the dogs' beards be made;*' which is done by thrusting flaming bunches of furze, fastened to long poles, against their beards, till their faces are burnt black, the surrounding populace rending the air with the loudest acclamations of joy. At last fire is set to the furze at the bottom of the stake, over which the victims are chained, so high, that the flame seldom reaches higher than the seat they sit on, and thus they are rather roasted than burnt. Although there cannot be a more lamentable spectacle, and the sufferers continually cry out as long as they are able, '*Pity, for the love of God!*' yet it is beheld by persons of all ages and both sexes with transports of joy and satisfaction.

When we reflect on the havoc made on the human species by the Inquisition, how must we rejoice that it is abolished in the two countries where it held a sway almost unlimited.

The Cortes of Lisbon, in one of their sittings, in October, 1821, decreed the abolition of the Inquisition; and one of the members proposed that the following inscription should be fixed on every place it had occupied:—'*May eternal malediction follow every Portuguese who does not hold for ever in abhorrence an invention so infernal!*'

By a decree of the Cortes, the dungeons of the Inquisition were thrown open to the public; and an Englishman, then in Lisbon, gives the following account of this horrible place.

'On the 8th of October the Inquisition of Lisbon was thrown open for public inspection, and for the first four days the concourse of people of all descriptions that crowded to view it was so great that the pressure of the entrance made it an enterprise of some risk.

'The building is a large oblong, with a garden in the centre; there are three floors,

with a number of vaulted passages, along the sides of which are cells of different sizes, from six by seven feet, to eight by nine feet. Each cell has two doors, the inner one of iron, the outer of oak, very strong. As there are no windows in the cells on the ground and middle floors, no light is admitted when the doors are shut. The cells on the upper floor are larger than the others, and each has an aperture like a chimney, through which the sky is visible. These were appropriated to the use of those who it was supposed might be liberated. In the roof of each cell (for they are all vaulted) is a small aperture of about an inch in diameter, and a private passage runs over each range; so that the persons employed by the holy office could at any time observe the conduct of the prisoners unseen; and if two persons were confined in one cell, hear their conversation. There are seats in these private passages so contrived that a person sitting might inspect two of the cells at the same time, as, by a turn of the head, he could fix his eye upon the hole over either cell at pleasure, or he could hear what was said in either. The persons appointed to listen to the discourse of the prisoners wore cloth shoes, so that their footsteps could not be heard.

'Frequently a familiar of the holy office was put into the cell of a prisoner, as a person arrested, in order to entrap the unfortunate inmate of this horrible place into admissions that might afterwards be used against him. I saw, in several of the cells, human skulls and bones; most of them appeared to have lain there for many years, as I broke some of them easily with my fingers, others were hard and fresh. In a number of the cells the names of the unhappy inmates were written on the walls: some had strokes, apparently marking the number of days or weeks the victims of this horrid tyranny had been confined. On the wall of one cell I counted upwards of five hundred of these marks. On the wall of another cell was written, 'Francisco Joze Carvalho, entered here the last day of March, 1809, and remained as many days as there are strokes in the wall.' On the wall of another cell was written, 'John Laycock;' the name had been covered with whitewash, which had scaled off. There were a number of strokes under the name, and the figures "18" were easily made out, the others were obliterated. Some of the cells, which had not been used for several years, were locked up, but the visitants soon broke them open. Human bones were found in many of these. In one was found part of a friar's habit, with a waist-girdle of rope, and some bones. The apertures, like chimneys, in some of the cells were closed; and I have been informed that it was a common mode of putting prisoners to death, to place them in these apertures, which were then walled up, and quicklime being poured in from the top, a speedy end was put to their sufferings. The furniture is very old; the chairs in the halls are covered with leather, studded all round with very large brass nails. The large tables in the

halls had drawers for papers; these the visitants broke open, every one being desirous of obtaining some relic of the once terrible Inquisition. In several of the cells there were mattresses, some of them old, others nearly new, which proves that the Inquisition was not a trifle up to a very recent date. The spot on which the Inquisition stands was covered with houses in 1755, when the great earthquake happened, by which they were laid in ruins; so that the present building has not been erected more than sixty years, and all the victims that were immolated in it, must have been sacrificed within that period.'

Switzerland.

In Switzerland, the prisoners who have not been tried, and consequently punished on presumption of guilt, are most severely treated. They are not only a long time in being brought to trial, but their places of confinement are most cruel. In a visit to one of these prisons, in 1818, a man was found shut up in a tower, situated in the middle of a river. He was its only human inhabitant. His gaoler came three times a day in a boat, to examine his chain and bring him food; and his judges from time to time, as they proceeded in his examination. He was chained to his bed, from which he could not move far, and had neither chair, table, fire, nor comfort, nothing but a few old books. He could indeed see the sky, but that only. He had been in this situation for twelve months, and even then it was not determined whether he was guilty or not. In the same tower was a room, about sixteen feet square, without light altogether, or air, except what passed through a narrow funnel. In this place a man had been on one occasion confined eleven months. In another prison, a large apartment in the tower of an ancient convent, a man was found who had been taken up on suspicion, and had been confined forty-eight days. The window was unglazed, but not large enough to admit light. The room was very cold. The straw on which the prisoner lay was almost black with use, and his clothes had not been changed since his confinement. These are, it is to be hoped, singular cases; yet it is the general treatment of untried prisoners in Switzerland.

The Outlaw of Calabria.

One of the most celebrated leaders of the bands of brigands which infested Calabria and the Abruzzi, in 1817, was the priest *Ciro Annichiarico*, who, though born of respectable parents, and bred to the ecclesiastical profession, abandoned himself to crime at an early period of his life. He began his infamous career by killing a young man of the *Motolesi* family in a fit of jealousy. His insatiable hatred pursued every member of the family, and exterminated them one after the other,

the exception of a single individual, who succeeded in evading his search, and who shut up in his house for several years, not daring to go out. This unfortunate thought that a snare was laid for him, and people came to tell him of the imprisonment and shortly after, of the death of his father; and it was with difficulty that he was induced to quit his retreat.

condemned for the murder of the Moor, fifteen years of chains or exile by the king of Lecce, remained there in prison for years, when he made his escape. It was then that he began to lead a vagabond life, and was stained by the most atrocious crimes.

At Martano he penetrated with his accomplices into one of the first houses of the place, massacred the mistress and all her servants, and carried off ninety-six thousand scudi. He became in correspondence with hired brigands; and whoever wished to be rid of an enemy had only to address himself to him. On being asked by Captain Orsini, reporter of the military commission, how many persons he had killed with his own hand, he carelessly replied, *‘E chi lo sa? saranno tra sessanta e settanta.’* ‘Who can remember? they will be between sixty and seventy.’ One of his confidants, Occhiolupo, confessed to seven of the two brothers, Francesco and Vito, and to twenty-three; so that these four alone had assassinated upwards of a hundred!

The activity of his life was as astonishing as his audacity and intrepidity. He handled the horse and managed the horse to perfection: he was always extremely well mounted, and with concealment and support, either through inclination, everywhere. He succeeded in getting from the hands of the soldiers by marches of thirty and forty miles, even confidential spies had discovered his mode of concealment but a few hours before. Singular good fortune of being able to disguise himself from the most imminent dangers acquired for him the reputation of a wizard, upon whom ordinary means of defence had no power among the people, and selected nothing which could confirm this and increase the sort of spell it produced upon the peasants. They dared not execute or blame him in his absence, so firmly they were persuaded that his demons would inevitably inform him of it.

He put himself at the head of two associations of most desperate character, the *Patrioti* and *Decisi*. The institution of the one, or decided, was of the most horrible kind. They kept a register of the victims immolated; and had what they called a series of funeral ceremonies, for they proceeded with method and solemnity. As soon as the detachments employed on this found it convenient to effect their purpose, the first blast of a trumpet they sounded their poniards; at the second blast they killed them at their victim; at the third gradually brought their weapons towards the east, *‘con vero entusiasmo,’* in their

cannibal language; and at the fourth signal plunged them into his body.

In 1817, these associations had become so formidable that General Church was sent with an army to exterminate them; but with men linked by such ties, a person of Ciro's determined character was not to be put down easily. He therefore made the most desperate efforts to defend himself. At length, worn out by fatigue, Ciro and three companions, Vito di Cesare, Giovanni Palmieri, and Michele Cuppoli, had taken refuge in Scaserba, to repose themselves for a few hours. He had previously provided this, and all the farm-houses of the district, with ammunition and some provisions. When he saw the militia of S. Marzano marching against him, he appeared very little alarmed, and thought he could easily cut through their ranks. He shot the first man dead who came within range of his musket. This delay cost him dear; the militia sent information to Lieutenant Fonsmore, stationed at the ‘Castelli,’ a strong position between Grottaglie and Francavilla. This officer hastened to the spot with forty men. On seeing him approach, Ciro perceived that a vigorous attack was to be made. He shut up the people of the Masseira in the straw magazine, and put the key in his pocket. He took away the ladder from the tower, and loaded, with the aid of his companions, all the guns, of which he had a good number.

Next morning, Major Bianchi proceeded in person to Scaserba, and besieged Ciro with one hundred and thirty soldiers, while a body of the militia were placed at some distance. Ciro rigorously defended the approaches to the tower until sunset. He attempted to escape in the night, but the neighing of a horse made him suspect that some cavalry had arrived, whose pursuit it would be impossible to elude. He retired, after having killed with a pistol shot a Voltigeur, stationed under the wall he had attempted to scale. He again shut himself up in his tower, and employed himself till morning in making cartridges. At day-break the besiegers tried to burst open the wooden gate of the outer wall; Ciro and his men repulsed the assailants by a well-directed fire; they killed five and wounded fourteen men. A barrel of oil was brought in order to burn the door. The first man who set fire to it was shot through the heart. A four-pounder which had been conveyed to the place was pointed against the roof of the tower. Several of this calibre had been contrived to be easily dismounted from their carriages and transported on mules. This little piece produced great effect, and the tiles and bricks which fell forced Ciro to descend from the second floor to the first. After some deliberations with his companions, he demanded to speak with General Church, who, he believed, was in the neighbourhood; then to the Duke of Jasi, who was also absent; at last he resolved to capitulate with Major Bianchi. He addressed the besiegers, and threw them some bread. Major Bianchi promised that he should not be maltreated by the soldiers. He descended the ladder, opened the door of the

tower, and presented himself with the words, '*Eccomi, Don Ciro!*' 'Here I am, Don Ciro!'

He begged them to give him some water to quench his thirst, and desired them to liberate the farmer and his family, who had been shut up all this time in the straw magazine. He declared that they were innocent, and distributed money amongst them. He suffered himself to be searched and bound patiently; some poison was found on him, which he said his companions had prevented him from taking. In prison, he appeared to be interested for the fate of some of his partisans, begging that they might not be persecuted, and declared that they had been forced to do what they had done. He had entertained some hope till the moment when he was placed before the Council of War, and refused permission to speak to General Church. He was condemned to death. On his arrival at the place of execution, Ciro wished to remain standing, but was told to kneel; he did so, presenting his breast. He was then informed that malefactors like himself were shot with their backs towards the soldiers; he submitted, at the same time advising a priest, who persisted in remaining near him, to withdraw, so as not to expose himself.

Twenty-one balls took effect, four in the head, yet he still breathed and muttered in his throat; the twenty-second put an end to him. This fact is confirmed by all the officers and soldiers present at his death. 'As soon as we perceived,' said a soldier, very gravely, 'that he was enchanted, we loaded his own musket with a silver ball, and this destroyed the spell.' It will easily be supposed that the people, who always attributed to him supernatural powers, were confirmed in their belief by this tenacity of life, which they considered miraculous.

Tiberius.

Theodorus Gaddaræus, who was tutor to Tiberius the Roman Emperor, observing in him, while a boy, a very sanguinary nature and disposition, which lay lurking under a show of lenity, was wont to call him, 'a lump of clay steeped and soaked in blood.' His predictions of him did not fail in the event. Tiberius thought death was too light a punishment for any one that displeased him. Hearing that one Carnulius, who had displeased him, had cut his own throat, 'Carnulius,' said he, 'has escaped me.' To another, who begged of him that he might die quickly, 'No,' said he, 'you are not so much in favour as that yet.'

Death of Julius Cæsar.

If the conspirators had restored liberty to their country, their act had been completely glorious, and would have shown that Cæsar, and not Rome, was degenerated. But if we may judge from the consequences, heaven

disapproved of the deed. A particular fate attended the conspirators; not even one of them died a natural death; and even Brutus, recollecting in his last moments the benefit he had received from Cæsar, was staggered in his thoughts of virtue, and broke out into a pathetic expression, signifying, 'that he had worshipped virtue as a substance, and had found it only as a shadow;' so that he seems to have wanted that fortitude of mind, which constantly attends true virtue to the grave. This defect in the character of Brutus, is not improperly expressed in the famous gallery of the great Duke of Tuscany, where there is a very fine head of Brutus, begun by Michael Angelo, but left unfinished; under it is engraven, upon a copper-plate, this distich:

'Dum Bruti effigiem sculptor de marmore
ducit,
In mentem sceleris venit, et abstinuit.'

Ancient Duelling.

A chapter of the Upland law, has been quoted by Dr. Robertson from Stiernook, entitled, 'On Battle and Single Combat; from the *old laws which were used in the heathen time.*' 'If (it says) a man speak to another the words which ought not to be spoken: Thou art not a man's equal, thou art not a man in thy heart, I am as much a man as thou art; then shall they meet at the meeting of three ways.' The usage of the heathen days allowed of duel or single combat, in answer to the inexpiable accusation of cowardice, an accusation which could only be effaced by blood; the recreant who refused to give the satisfaction of a gentleman, 'where three ways meet,' *lost his law*, and never could afterwards defend himself by oath, or be received as a witness. That which was the direful cause of war before the rape of Helen, could not fail to inflame the anger of the Scandinavians; and their combats very frequently originated in 'ladies' love and drury.' The last and most memorable duel in Iceland, was fought between the two poets, Gunnlang with the serpent tongue, and Kafn. They contended for the hand of the fair-haired Pelga, and both died in the conflict. The fate of these youthful lovers excited universal commiseration; and it was enacted, that one of the greatest folkmates ever known in Iceland, and by the advice of one of the wisest men in Iceland, that henceforth the duel should be taken away for ever.

Scottish Covenanters.

The following passage from Bishop Burnet's 'History of his own Time,' will give some notion of the *kind*, though not of the *extent* of that hideous persecution, from which the people of Scotland were delivered by the revolution. 'When any are to be struck in the boots, it is done in the presence of the council and upon that occasion almost all offer to run away. The sight is so dreadful, that without an order restraining such a number to stay

boards would be forsaken. But the Duke of York afterwards (James II.), while he was in Scotland, was so far from running away, he looked on all the while with an unusual indifference, and with an attention as had been to look on some curious experiment.

This gave a terrible idea of him to all who observed it, as a man that had no bowels of humanity in him. Lord Perth observing this, resolved to let him see how well qualified he was to be an inquisitor-general. The rule in Scotland, was, that upon a question of witness and presumptions, both together, a question might be given. But it was known to be twice given, or that any species of torture besides the boots, might be used at pleasure. In the Court of Session, they do upon suspicion, or if a man refuses to answer upon oath as he is required, give him the torture, and repeat it as often as they think fit, and do not give over till they have got out of their mangled prisoners that they have a mind to know from

his Lord Perth now resolved to make his own, and was a little too early in letting the world see what a government we were to be under the influence of a prince of that nation. So upon his going to Scotland, one John, who was a servant of Lord Argyle's, was taken up to London only upon suspicion, and sent down to Scotland, was required to take an oath to answer all the questions which should be put to him. This was in direct contradiction to an express obligation obliging men to swear that they will not *super inquirendis*. Spence likewise thought that he himself might be concerned in what he might know, and it was against a universal law, that excused all men from fighting against themselves, to force him to take such an oath. So he was struck in the face, and continued firm in his refusal. A new species of torture was invented; he was kept from sleep eight or nine nights. He grew weary of managing this, so a third species was invented. Little screws of steel were made use of, that screwed the thumbs into that exquisite torture, that he sunk under it. Lord Perth told him, that they would screw every joint of his whole body, one after another, till he took the oath. Yet such was his firmness and fidelity of this poor man, that in that extremity, he capitulated that no questions should be put to him but those he had agreed upon, and that he should not witness against any person, and that he himself should be pardoned; so all he could get was, who were Lord Argyle's correspondents. The chief of them was Holmes, a Londoner, to whom Lord Argyle wrote in a letter that had a particular curiosity in it. The first key was necessary, the one was to the way of placing the words of the letter, in an order very different from that they lay upon the paper; the other was the key of the cyphers themselves, which was among Holmes's papers when he was executed. Spence knew only the first of these, and put all in its due order, and then by

the other key they were deciphered. In them it appeared what Argyle had demanded, and what he undertook to do upon the granting his demands; but none of his letters spoke anything of any agreement then made.

'When the torture had this effect on Spence, they offered the same oath to Carstairs; and upon his refusing to take it, they put his thumbs into the screws, and drew them so hard, that as they put him to extreme torture, so they could not unscrew them, till the smith that made them was brought with his tools to take them off.'

Outraged Nature Avenged.

In Queen Anne's reign, a soldier belonging to a marching regiment, that was quartered in the city of W—, was taken up for desertion, and being tried by a court-martial, was sentenced to be shot. The colonel and lieutenant-colonel being both in London, the command of the regiment had devolved in course to the major, who was accounted a very cruel and obdurate man. The day of execution being come, the regiment, as usual upon those occasions, was drawn up to witness it; but when everyone present who knew the custom at these executions, expected to see the corporals cast lots for the ungracious office, they were surprised to find it fixed by the major upon the prisoner's own brother, who was also a soldier in the regiment, and was at the moment taking his last leave of the unfortunate culprit.

On this inhuman order being announced to the brothers, they both fell down upon their knees; the one supplicated in the most affecting terms that he might be spared the horror of shedding a brother's blood; and the other brother, that he might receive his doom from any other hand than his. But all their tears and supplications were in vain; the major was not to be moved. He swore that the brother, and the brother only, should be the man, that the example might be the stronger, and the execution the more horrible. Several of the officers attempted to remonstrate with him, but to no purpose. The brother prepared to obey. The prisoner having gone through the usual service with the minister, kneeled down at the place appointed to receive the fatal shot. The major stood by, saw the afflicted brother load his instrument of death, and this being done, ordered him to observe the third signal with his cane, and at that instant to do his office, and dispatch the prisoner. But behold the justice of Providence! When the major was dealing his fatal signals for the prisoner's death, at the last motion of his cane, the soldier, inspired by some superior power, suddenly turned about his piece, and shot the tyrant in a moment through the head. Then throwing down his piece, he exclaimed, 'He that can show no mercy, no mercy let him receive. Now I submit, I had rather die this hour, for this death, than live a hundred years, and give my brother his.' At this unexpected

event, nobody seemed to be sorry; and some of the chief citizens, who came to see the execution, and were witnesses of all that passed, prevailed with the next commanding officer to carry both the brothers back to prison, and not to execute the first prisoner until farther orders, promising to indemnify him for the consequences, as far as their whole interest could possibly go with the queen. This request being complied with, the city corporation, that very night, drew up a most pathetic and moving address to their sovereign, humbly setting forth the cruelty of the deceased, and praying her majesty's clemency towards both the prisoners. The queen, upon the perusal of this petition, which was presented to her majesty by one of the city representatives, was pleased to promise that she would inquire a little further into the matter. On doing so, she found the truth of the petition confirmed in all its particulars; and was graciously pleased to pardon both the offending brothers, and discharge them from her service, 'For which good mercy in the queen,' says a chronicle of that period, 'she received a very grateful, and most dutiful, address of thanks from her loyal city.'

English Gaols Schools of Corruption.

It is remarked by Mr. Locke, 'Of all the men we meet with, nine parts in ten are what they are, good or evil, useful or not, by their education.' Never was this truth more strongly exemplified than in the case of persons of comparatively pure lives committed to an English gaol.

'Many and very grievous,' says that indefatigable philanthropist, Mr. Buxton, 'are the instances which have come to my knowledge of persons corrupted by prison. When I first went to Newgate, my attention was directed, by my companion, Mr. Bedford, of Spitalfields, to a boy whose apparent innocence and artlessness had attracted his notice. The schoolmaster said he was an example to all the rest, so quiet, so reserved, and so unwilling to have any intercourse with his dissolute companions. At his trial, he was acquitted, upon evidence which did not leave a shadow of suspicion upon him; but lately I recognised him again in Newgate, but with a very different character. I cannot entertain a doubt of this lad having been ruined by Newgate. I could, if delicacy would allow it, mention the name of a person who practised in the law, and who was connected by marriage with some very respectable families. He, for a fraud, was committed to Clerkenwell prison, and sent from thence to Newgate, in a coach, handcuffed to a noted housebreaker, who was afterwards cast for death. The first night, and the subsequent fortnight, he slept in the same bed with a highwayman on one side, and a man charged with murder on the other. During that period, and long after, spirits were freely introduced. At first he abstained from them, but he soon found that either he

must adopt the manners of his companions, or his life would be in danger. They already viewed him with some suspicion, as one of whom they knew nothing. He was in consequence put out of the protection of their internal law. Their code is a subject of some curiosity. When any prisoner commits an offence against the community, or against an individual, he is tried. Some one, generally the oldest and most dexterous thief, is appointed judge; a towel tied in knots is hung on each side of his head, in imitation of a wig. He takes his seat, if he can find one, with a form and decorum; and to call him anything but 'my lord' is a high misdemeanour. A jury is then appointed, and regularly sworn, and the culprit is brought up. Unhappily, justice is not administered with quite the same integrity within the prison as without it. The most trifling bribe to the judge will secure an acquittal, but the neglect of this formality, is a sure prelude to condemnation. The punishments are various; standing in the pillory is the heaviest. The criminal's head is placed between the legs of a chair, and his arms stretched out are attached to it; he then carries about this machine; but any punishment, however heinous the offence, might be commuted into a fine, to be spent in liquor, for the use of the judge and jury. This mode of trial was the source of continual persecution to Mr. —; hardly a day passed without an accusation against him for moving something which ought not to be touched, or leaving a door open, or coughing maliciously, to the disturbance of his companions. The evidence was always clear, to the satisfaction of the jury; and the judge was incessant in his efforts to reform him, by inflicting the highest punishments. In short, self-preservation rendered it necessary for him to adopt the manners of his associates; by insensible degrees, he began to lose his repugnance to their society; caught their flash terms, and sung their songs; was admitted to their revels, and acquired in place of habits of perfect sobriety, a taste for spirits; and a taste so strong, and so rooted, that even now he finds it difficult to resist the cravings of his diseased thirst for stimulants.'

Private Assumptions of Judicial Authority.

While Christina, Queen of Sweden, resided in France, after her abdication, she excited general horror by an action, for which in perhaps any other country she would have been punished with death. This was the murder of Monaldeschi, an Italian, her master of the horse, who had betrayed some secret entrusted to him. He was summoned into a gallery in the palace; letters were shown to him, at the sight of which he turned pale, and entreated for pardon, but he was told instantly to prepare to die. The queen withdrew, and two of her domestics issuing from an adjoining apartment, put her sanguinary order into execution, by stabbing the unfortunate Mo-

eschi to death. The French court was offended at this atrocious deed ; yet it with vindicators, on the absurd plea, that Christina had abdicated the Swedish throne, she had not resigned any of the prerogatives of royalty. Even the great Richelieu disgraced his name, by enlisting himself among the apologists of this female

When the celebrated Colonel Blood was at the head of the Fifth Monarchy, he was guilty of a conduct somewhat similar, wanting only the bloody part of the transaction. He called for a court-martial in a tavern, to try two members of his secret council, who had read all his transactions to the government. They were tried, found guilty, and sentenced to be shot two days after in the same place. When the time appointed came, till which they were kept in strict durance, they were brought out, and all the necessary preparations made for putting the sentence into execution. The poor men seeing no hopes of mercy, prepared themselves to suffer as well as they could. At this critical juncture, Blood graciously pleased to grant them his pardon, trusting that they would atone for their past offences by their future gratitude and fidelity!

Avarice Outwitted.

The case of John Eyre, Esq., who, though upwards of £30,000, was convicted at Old Bailey, and sentenced to transportation for stealing eleven quires of common writing paper, was rendered more memorable by the opportunity which it gave Junius to reach the integrity of Lord Mansfield, who was supposed to have erred in admitting him guilty. An anecdote is related of Mr. Eyre, which shows in a striking manner the natural civility of the human heart ; and may help to atone for the meanness of the crime of which he stood convicted. An uncle of his, a gentleman of considerable property, made his will in favour of a clergyman, who was his intimate friend, and committed it, unknown to the rest of his family, to the custody of a divine. However, not long before his death, having altered his mind with regard to the disposal of his wealth, he made another will in which he left the clergyman only £500, reserving the bulk of his large fortune to go to his nephew and heir-at-law, Mr. Eyre. Soon after the old gentleman's death, Mr. Eyre, ransacking over his drawers, found this last will, and perceiving the legacy of £500 in it left to the clergyman, without any hesitation or scruple of conscience, put it in the fire, and took possession of the whole effects, in consequence of his uncle's being supposed to have died intestate. The clergyman coming to him soon after, and enquiring into the circumstances of his old friend's death, asked if he had made any will before he died? On being answered by Mr. Eyre in the negative, the clergyman very coolly put his hand in his pocket, and pulled out the former will, which

had been committed to his care, in which Mr. Eyre had bequeathed him the whole of his fortune, amounting to several thousand pounds, excepting a legacy of £500 to his nephew.

Death for a Rhyme.

A poet called *Madera*, having calumniated a noble Roman lady, called *Pontana*, was called to an account for the imprudent attack by Pope Sixtus V. He declared he had no reason for slandering her, but that *Putana* rhymed to *Pontana*. The witty Pontiff, in the same vein of humour, condemned him to the galleys, 'Merely,' said he, 'because *Gallera* is a good rhyme to *Madera*.'

Extraordinary Experiment.

About 1776, there appeared an account from Port St. Louis, in Brittany, in France, of a galley-slave who had been condemned to death for murder, but who was promised life and liberty, and a considerable reward, upon condition of suffering himself to be dressed in a certain apparatus, and pushed off the top of a building seventy feet high, for the purpose of ascertaining the power of the air, in supporting a superincumbent weight. A farther experiment, with some improvements, was made in the presence of many persons of distinction. A gentleman who is extremely curious in every branch of mechanics and natural philosophy, having written to a friend at Nantes, relative to the affair, received the following account. 'The slave in question, whose name is Dominic Dufour, aged about twenty-four years, on the morning of the 29th of September, ascended the leads of the Arsenal, one hundred and forty-five feet, from the terrace of the Esplanade, dressed in a suit of feathered tissue, accompanied by the Duke d'Aiguillon, Governor of Brittany, the Abbé de Henry, and the King's Professor of Mathematics in the Academy of Rennes. A strong cephalic cordial being given him, he was pushed very gently off the parapet of the building, in sight of more than ten thousand spectators ; and after fluttering a little in a brisk wind, began to descend in a steady uniform manner, at the distance of about ten feet from the wall of the tower, amidst the acclamations of the people, whose joy for his success would have been immoderate, if not checked by some anxiety for the event ; which soon relieved them, for the successful convict lighted upon his feet in perfect safety, being exactly two minutes and thirteen seconds in his descent. He was immediately let blood, and conducted through the principal streets, with drums and trumpets, to the Town Hall, where the magistrates gave a splendid entertainment to many nobility and others, who came from all parts of the country to behold the extraordinary sight. A handsome collection was made by the company, and the prisoner relieved, with a certificate of

his performance, to entitle him to the king's bounty and most gracious pardon, with which he set off the next day to Paris. M. Defontagne, who is the author of this invention, has applied for an exclusive patent for his natural life, as such an apparatus may be of invaluable consequence in cases of sudden accident, particularly fire, for which purpose it was chiefly intended.'

The Thurian Code.

Charondas, in order to check capricious innovations in his Thurian laws, ordained that whoever should propose any alteration in them, should remain in public, with a rope about his neck, till the people had formally decided upon its adoption or rejection. In the latter case, the rope was tightened, and the reformer strangled. It can scarcely be necessary to add, that few alterations were proposed. Only three instances are recorded by the Greek historian; and of these, but one refers to criminal legislation.

Faithful to the old principle of retaliation which has produced so much mischief in the world, the law was enacted, that whoever should deprive another of his sight, should be punished by the loss of his own. A man who had already lost one of his eyes, and by a second wound was deprived of the other, represented with tears to his fellow citizens, that the offender would not endure an equal suffering, as he would retain the use of one of his eyes, whereas he himself was totally blind; justice, therefore, he alleged, demanded that he should be punished with the loss of both. At the peril of his life he proposed this alteration; his suggestion was accepted, and the charge was confirmed.

George the Third.

Although picking a pocket is not a capital felony, yet taking anything privily from the person, of the value of one shilling, is punishable with death. The Recorder having to report to his majesty, George the Third, the capital conviction of a man for stealing privily from the person, the king asked what that offence meant, as distinguished from picking a pocket? The Recorder answered, that it meant taking the article without the knowledge of the party from whom it was stolen. 'Why,' replied his majesty, 'I had always understood that the very essence of picking a pocket, was, that it should be done as much without the knowledge of the party as possible.' The king refused his assent to the death warrant, and the criminal was ordered for transportation.

Law against Stealing.

It is singular enough, that the punishment for private stealing, by hard labour, which has recently been proposed as one of the

substitutes for death, seems to have occurred, though indistinctly, to the very legislators by whom the penalty of death was first appointed. By the statute of the 8th of Elizabeth, this crime, when committed *clam et secreta*, was excluded from the benefit of clergy; and it is necessary for every indictment to contain those words, in order to subject the accused party to a capital conviction. Now this very statute, in its preamble, says, 'that it is made to the end, that the fraternity, or brotherhood of cutpurses and pickpockets, *may not continue to live idle* by the secret spoil of good and true subjects.'

Does not, then, this preamble itself seem to intimate, that the proper remedy is to oblige the criminal to hard labour?

Hanging.

This mode of punishment was known in the first ages of the French monarchy. In England, it has long been the only capital punishment, for where decapitation forms a part of the sentence, the criminal is first hanged. By the Saxon laws, the adulteress was compelled to hang herself. She was then thrown upon a funeral pile, over which was suspended the body of her paramour. The Emperor of Germany sanctions no other mode of execution than hanging; the body is ordered to remain suspended twelve hours upon the gallows, and afterwards to be buried, not with the ordinary rites of sepulture, but apart from the other dead, without ceremony or attendance.

Resuscitation.

In the year 1728, Margaret Dickson was tried at Edinburgh for the murder of her child, supposed to have been born during the absence of her husband. After her condemnation, she behaved in the most penitent manner, acknowledged her infidelity, but constantly and steadily denied that she had murdered her child, or even formed an idea of so horrible a crime. At the place of execution, her behaviour was consistent with her former declaration; and she was hanged. After her execution, her body was cut down, and delivered to her friends, who put it into a cart, to be buried at her native place; but the weather being sultry, the persons who had the body in charge, stopped to drink at a village about two miles from Edinburgh. While they were refreshing themselves, one of them perceived the lid of the coffin move, and uncovering it, the woman immediately sat up, when most of the spectators ran off with every sign of trepidation. A person who was drinking in the house, had recollection enough to bleed her; in about an hour after, she was put to bed, and next morning she was so far recovered as to be able to walk to her own house. By the Scottish law, which is partly founded on that of the Romans, a

in against whom the judgment of the
t has been executed, can suffer no more
ture, but is thenceforth totally excul-
1; and it is likewise held, that the mar-
is dissolved by the execution of the
et of party. Mrs. Dickson having been
convicted and executed, the king's ad-
e could prosecute her no farther, but he
a bill in the High Court of Justiciary,
at the sheriff, for omitting to fulfil the
The husband of this restored convict,
el her publicly a few days after she was
; and she lived about thirty years
wards.

Breaking on the Wheel.

is punishment is said by some, to have
first inflicted under Commodus, in the
d century of Christianity; others date
igin in the time of Louis le Gros; it
not, however, admitted into the French
until the year 1534, when it was the sub-
f an edict of Francis I.

s edict was not less marked by its dis-
rtion of punishments, than by its general
of atrocity. Hanging, which had been
enalty of murder, still remained so. The
was not extended to this crime, but
ied to cases of highway robbery and
ary; thus property was more carefully
eted than life. This shocking disparity
finally corrected under the reign of
y II.; the highwayman no longer ap-
d a greater criminal than the murderer,
as still equally punished.

l yet the law, thus severe in instances of
dual robbery, contents itself with in-
g merely pecuniary fines upon ministers
embezzle the public property, a crime
i, in the fourteenth and fifteenth
ries, was punished with death in France.
errant de Marigny, superintendent of
nances of Philip le Bel, was capitally
cted of peculation, and suffered for it

Louis le Hutin; nor would Jacques
have been more fortunate under
es VII., had not that prince commuted
ishment for a fine of 300,000 livres,
he confiscation of his entire property.
rigour was confirmed by many other
es; but in 1716, Louis XV. substituted
iary mulcts. Well may we exclaim
the poet,

‘Plate sin with gold.
l the strong lance of justice hurtless
reals;
th it in rag, and a paltry straw will
and it.’

Punishment of Quartering.

asons of justice and utility authorize
d punishments, they certainly do not re-
that they should be inflicted with bar-
t. What then must be thought of
ering the body, that horrible aggrava-
f capital punishments, which was a

very ancient mode of executing criminals in
France convicted of high treason? Gregory
of Tours adduces several instances of it.
Gonelon was quartered for having conspired
against Charlemagne. Nor was this dis-
graceful ferocity confined to France; when
Richard III. was recognised as King of
England, a gentleman of the name of Col-
lingbourne was condemned to be quartered,
for having written to a friend of the Earl of
Richmond, who was then levying troops, the
two celebrated lines:

‘The rat, the cat, and Lovel the dog,
Rule all England under the hog.’

Alluding to Ratcliffe and Catesby, and to
Richard's arms, which were a Boar.

Tuscany.

Soon after the publication of Beccaria's
excellent ‘Treatise on Crimes and Punish-
ments,’ the Duke of Tuscany abolished the
punishment of death for every crime, even for
murder; and the beneficial effects of this
alteration in the criminal code, soon became
obvious. A gentleman who resided five years
at Pisa afterwards, states, that only five
murders had been committed in the Duchy
of Tuscany in twenty years. The same
gentleman, on leaving Tuscany, passed three
months at Rome, where death was still the
punishment of murder, and where executions
were conducted with remarkable solemnity.
During his short period, there were sixty
murders committed within the precincts of
the city; and yet the manners, principles,
and religion, of the inhabitants of Tuscany
and Rome, are exactly the same; conse-
quently the abolition of death alone as
a punishment for murder, produced this
difference in the moral character of the two
nations.

The edict of the Grand Duke of Tuscany
on this subject, is too remarkable to be
passed over; the following are extracts
from it:

‘Since our accession to the throne of
Tuscany, we have considered the examination
and reform of the criminal laws, as one of our
principal duties; and having soon discovered
them to be too severe, in consequence of
their having been founded on maxims es-
tablished, either at the unhappy crisis of the
Roman empire, or during the troubles of
anarchy, and particularly that they were by
no means adapted to the mild and gentle
temper of our subjects; we set out by mode-
rating the rigour of the said laws, by giving
injunctions and orders to our tribunals, and
by particular edicts abolishing *the pains of*
death, together with the different tortures
and punishments, which were immoderate,
and disproportioned to the transgressions and
contraventions to fiscal laws; waiting till we
were enabled, by a serious examination, and
by the trial we should make of these new re-
gulations, entirely to reform the said legisla-
ture.

'With the utmost satisfaction to our paternal feelings, we have at length perceived, that the mitigation of punishments, joined to a most scrupulous attention to prevent crimes, and also a great dispatch in the trials, together with a certainty and suddenness of punishment to real delinquents, has, instead of increasing the number of crimes, considerably diminished that of the smaller ones, and rendered those of an atrocious nature very rare; we have therefore come to a determination, not to defer any longer the reform of the said criminal laws, and having abolished in an absolute way the pain of death, deeming it not essential to the aim of society in punishing the guilty; having totally forbidden the use of the torture, and the confiscation of the criminal's goods, the latter as tending generally to the ruin of their innocent families, which were not accomplices in their offences, we have determined, &c.

'We have seen with horror the facility with which, in the former laws, the pain of death was decreed, even against crimes of no very great enormity; and having considered that the object of punishment, ought to consist in the satisfaction due either to public or private injury, in the correction of the offender, who is still a child, and member of the society and of the state, and whose reformation ought never to be despaired of, we find efficacy and moderation to consist more in condemning the said offender to hard labour, than in putting him to death; since the former serves as a lasting example, and the latter only as momentary object of terror, which is often changed into pity; we are therefore come to a resolution to abolish, and we actually abolish for ever, the pain of death, which shall not be inflicted on any criminal present, or refusing to appear, or even confessing his crime, or being convicted of any of those crimes which in the laws, prior to those we now promulgate, and which we will have to be absolutely and entirely abolished, were styled capital.'

Abuse of Parents.

The Mosaic law ordained, that he that curseth his father or his mother, shall surely be put to death; and amongst the American Indians and several other rude nations, filial duty is considered as the first of virtues. In more civilized states, parental authority and respect are not so carefully protected; but in Scotland, in 1818, a journeyman plasterer of the name of Oliver, was tried at Kirkcudbright, before the Steward of the Stewartry and a special jury, for the crime of cursing, and otherwise threatening, and for using personal violence towards his aged and widowed mother. Several witnesses were examined, whose evidence conclusively established the fact of the prisoner having abused her in the grossest manner, and of his having threatened to deprive her of life: none of the witnesses saw the prisoner strike his mother, but one of them affirmed, that from various circumstances

she had no doubt of his having done so. After a few minutes' consultation, the jury returned a verdict, finding the fact of the prisoner's having cursed and otherwise grossly abused his mother proven, but finding the charge of his having struck her not proven. The prisoner was then addressed by Sir Alexander Gordon in a short but impressive speech, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and thereafter to be banished the Stewartry for the space of seven years. This is the only case of the kind that has been tried in Scotland for many years.

Execution of Nundcomar.

The execution of Nundcomar, in the East Indies, on a charge of forgery, was attended with circumstances particularly affecting. He was seventy years of age; was a Brahmin, a rank considered sacred among the Hindoos.

Sir Gilbert Elliot, (afterwards Lord Minto) in a speech which he made in the House of Commons in 1788, read an account of the execution of Nundcomar, written by the Sheriff who attended on the occasion. From this narrative we make the following extracts:

'Friday evening, the 4th of August, upon my entering the apartments in the gaol, he arose and saluted me in his usual manner. When informed that on the following day he must suffer, he replied that fate was not to be resisted; and putting his finger to his forehead, said, "God's will be done." His composure was wonderful; not a sigh escaped him, nor the smallest alteration of voice or countenance.

'On Saturday, the 5th, at seven, I was informed that everything was in readiness at the gaol for the execution. The howlings and lamentations of the poor wretched people who were taking their last leave of him, are not to be described. I have hardly recovered the first shock while I write this three hours afterwards. As soon as he heard I was arrived, he came down into the yard, and joined me in the gaoler's apartment. There was no lingering about him—no affected delay. Seeing some person look at a watch, he rose, and said he was ready; and immediately turning to three Brahmins who were to attend and take care of his body, he embraced them all closely, but without the least mark of melancholy or depression on his part, while they were in agonies of grief and despair.

'At the place of execution, the crowd was very great; the Rajah sat in his palanquin, and looked around with some attention, but I did not observe the smallest discomposure in his countenance or manner. At the sight of the gallows, or any of the ceremonies passing about it. He conversed for some time with the Brahmins, and begged that the men might be taken care of, as they were to take charge of the body, which he desired repeatedly might not be touched by any of the bystanders. Nothing now remained but the last painful ceremony. I ordered his palanquin to be placed close to the gallows, but he chose

walk. At the foot of the steps which led to the stage, he put his hands behind him to be tied with a handkerchief; some difficulties arising about the cloth which should be tied to his face, he told the people that it must be done by one of us. I presented to me a subaltern sepoy officer, who was a Hindoo, and he came forward with a handkerchief in his hand; but the Rajah pointed to a servant of his own, who was laying prostrate at his feet, and beckoned him to do it. Then on the stage, I examined his countenance as steadfastly as I could, till the cloth was red in it, and saw not the slightest symptom of fear or alarm. My own spirits sunk, and I fell into my palanquin; but before I was seated, he had given the signal, and the execution was removed. The body, after hanging a usual time, was taken down, and delivered to the Brahmins for burning.

While this tragedy (said Sir Gilbert) was going on, the surrounding multitudes were agitated with grief, fear, and suspense. With a kind of superstitious incredulity, they could not believe that it was really intended to put the Rajah to death; but when they saw him fall from the scaffold drop from under him, they set up an universal yell, and with the most piercing cries of horror and dismay, took themselves to flight, running, many of them as far as the Ganges, and plunging into the water, as if to hide themselves from such a sight as they had witnessed, or to wash away the pollution contracted from viewing such a spectacle.

Promulgation of the Statutes.

It was anciently the custom at the end of every session of Parliament, that all the statutes which had been enacted in it, were committed to the sheriff of every county in England, together with a writ commanding him to promulgate those statutes; and the sheriffs, in obedience to this writ, caused them to be proclaimed at their county courts; but after the invention of printing was brought into England, this practice was discontinued; and yet, till the fifth year of the reign of Queen Anne, those who could read, who consequently might be presumed to have a knowledge of the law, were only punished with death in those who could not read, and who might, therefore, well be supposed ignorant of the law.

Committing Murder Abroad.

Sir Francis Drake had, in some remote part of the globe, condemned one of his men to suffer death. The trial and condemnation seemed unjustifiable in every part; and the friends of the deceased, upon Sir Francis's return to England, joined in an application to the Queen, to issue out her commission to the Lord High Constable to try Sir Francis. The Queen consulted the officers of state about the

propriety of granting the request; but on account of the eminent services Sir Francis had rendered the nation, her majesty was advised not to comply with the solicitation.

In another case, however, recorded by Duck, a civilian, who lived in the time of Charles the First and Second, the latter prince did grant a commission to the Lord High Constable, to hold a court for the trial of one who had slain a British subject out of the king's dominions. He was found guilty of the murder, and sentenced to death, but afterwards reprieved.

It thus clearly appears, that it is a very great mistake to suppose that the laws of England cannot take cognizance of a murder of a British subject committed abroad; and that many *parties of honour* might, therefore, save themselves the trouble of choosing a foreign soil for the scene of their combats.

Tasso Delivered.

Tasso relates, that he was once attacked by a numerous banditti, but upon hearing the name of the author of 'Jerusalem Delivered,' they presented him to their chief, who received him with respect and veneration; all his baggage was restored to him, a considerable present added, and the chief, at the head of an escort, conducted him out of all danger.

Which is the Heir? Ingeniously Determined.

A jeweller who carried on an extensive trade, and supplied the deficiencies of one country by the superfluities of another, leaving his home with a valuable assortment of diamonds, for a distant region, took with him his son and a young slave, whom he had purchased in his infancy, and had brought up more like an adopted child than a servant. They performed their intended journey, and the merchant disposed of his commodities with great advantage; but while preparing to return, he was seized by a pestilential distemper, and died suddenly in the metropolis of a foreign country. This accident inspired the slave with a wish to possess his master's treasures, and relying on the total ignorance of strangers, and the kindness everywhere shown him by the jeweller, he declared himself the son of the deceased, and took charge of his property. The true heir of course denied his pretensions, and solemnly declared himself to be the only son of the defunct, who had long before purchased his opponent as a slave. This contest produced various opinions. It happened that the slave was a young man of comely person, and of polished manners; while the jeweller's son was ill-favoured by nature, and still more injured in his education, by the indulgence of his parents. This superiority operated in the minds of many to support the claims of the former; but since no

certain evidence could procured on either side, it became necessary to refer the dispute to a court of law. There, however, from a total want of proofs, nothing could be done. The magistrate declared his inability to decide on unsupported assertions, in which each party was equally positive. This caused a report of the case to be made to the prince, who having heard the particulars, was also confounded, and at a loss how to decide the question. At length, a happy thought occurred to the chief of the Judges, and he engaged to ascertain the real heir. The two claimants being summoned before him, he ordered them to stand behind a curtain prepared for the occasion, and to project their heads through two openings, when, after hearing their several arguments, he would cut off the head of him who should prove to be the slave. This they readily assented to; the one from a reliance on his honesty, the other from a confidence of the impossibility of detection. Accordingly, each taking his place as ordered, thrust his head through a hole in the curtain. An officer stood in front with a drawn cimeter in his hand, and the Judge proceeded to the examination. After a short debate, the Judge cried out, 'Enough, enough, strike off the villain's head!' and the officer, who watched the moment, leaped towards the two youths; the impostor, startled at the brandished weapon, hastily drew back his head, while the jeweller's son, animated by conscious security, stood unmoved. The Judge immediately decided for the latter, and ordered the slave to be taken into custody, to receive the punishment due to his diabolical ingratitude.

A Malefactor Saved to Good Purpose.

A French Abbé was sent for to prepare a hardened highwayman for death. They were shut up together in a little dim sort of a chapel, but the Abbé perceived, that amidst all his arguments and exhortations, the man scarcely took any notice of him. 'Strange!' said he, 'friend, do you think that in a few hours you are to appear before God? What can divert your thoughts from such an inexpressible concern?' 'You are right, father,' replied he, 'but I cannot get it out of my mind, that it is in your power to save my life, and well may that divert my thoughts.' 'I save your life! How can that be? Besides, I should then be the instrument of your doing more mischief, and increasing your sins.' 'No! no! father, nothing of that, you may take my word for it; my present danger will be an effectual security. I have been too near a gallows, ever to run a second risk!' The Abbé did as most persons, perhaps, would have done on a like occasion; he yielded to entreaties, and all the business now was to know how to set about the deliverance. The chapel received light only through one window, which was near the ceiling, and above fifteen feet from the floor. 'Why,

father,' said the malefactor, 'only remove the altar, as it is portable, to the wall; set your chair upon the altar, and stand you upon the chair, and I will stand upon your shoulder,' and I being thus within reach of the window, the business is done.' The Abbé closed with the expedient; the malefactor was out in a trice; and the kind father having put all things to rights, placed himself composedly in his chair. An hour or two after, the executioner growing impatient, knocked at the door, and asked the Abbé what had become of the criminal? 'Criminal!' gravely answered the father, 'he must be some angel; for on the word of a priest, out of that window did he take his flight.' The executioner being a loser by the escape, asked the father if he thought to make a fool of him so, and ran to report the matter to the judges. They repaired to the chapel, where the father was sitting in his chair, and pointing to the window, assured them, on his conscience, that the man, if he was a man, had flown out that way, and that he could hardly forbear recommending himself to him as a superior being; that, besides, were he a criminal, which he could not conceive after what he had seen him do, he was not made his keeper. The magistrates, who were not able to keep their countenances at this personated composure, wished the superior being a good journey, and went away. The Abbé, twenty years after, going through the Ardennes, (a woody country in the N. E. borders of France) happened to be bewildered at the close of the day. A person in the garb of a peasant viewed him very fixedly, asked him whither he was going, and assured him that the roads were extremely dangerous; but that on following him, he would carry him to a farm-house hard by, where he might be safe, and have a night's lodging. The Abbé was not a little perplexed at the attention of the man in looking at him, but considering that there was no escaping if he had any bad design, he followed the rustic, though with a heavy heart. This uneasiness, however, was soon removed by the sight of the farm-house, and superseded by joy, on his guide, the master of it, saying to his wife, 'kill a choice capon, and some of our best fowls, to entertain this guest I have brought you.' The farmer, whilst supper was getting ready, came in again with eight children about him, to whom he said, 'There, children, go and pay your respects to that good father, for without him you would not have been in the world; nor I either, for he saved my life.' Here the father recollected the man's features, so far as to perceive him to be the very robber whom he had helped to escape. All the family flocked about him with their thanks, and every mark of the most fervent respect and gratitude; when the farmer and he were by themselves, he asked by what means he became so well settled? 'I have kept my word, father, and being resolved to live honestly, I immediately on my escape set off, and begged my way down hither, where I was born. The master of this farm took me into his service, and by my diligence and honesty, I so far

and his good will, that he bestowed his heritage, his only child, on me. God has so ordered my honest endeavours, that I have got something, and a great joy it is to me, I can show you my gratitude.' 'The more I did you is over paid,' said the Abbé, 'he good use you have made of your life, don't talk of any presents.' He complied, however, with the farmer's entreaties to stay a few days with him; after which, the faithful man obliged him to make use of one of his horses to go through the journey, and did not leave him till he was out of danger from the brigands who used to infest these

distances. Shaking his head, and smiling, he threw the pardon to the nobleman who had interposed in the young man's behalf, adding, 'Take care you keep the rascal out of my reach for the future.'

When this pardon was shown to Lord Chancellor Hyde, observing how badly the letters of the king's name were formed, he wittily remarked, 'That when his majesty signed the pardon, "Justice had been fighting against Mercy."'

Unnatural Son.

We hope, for the honour of human nature, that such events as the following do not often occur.

Unanimity of a British Soldier.

The following anecdote, says a correspondent in the American *Village Record*, comes from a source entitled to perfect credit. During the revolutionary war, two British soldiers, of the army of Lord Cornwallis, went to a house, and abused the inmates in a cruel and shameful manner. A third soldier, in going into the house, met them and drove them out, and knew them. The people accused him of all blame, but he was imprisoned because he refused to disclose the names of the offenders. Every art was tried, but in vain, and at length he was condemned by a court-martial to die. When taken to the gallows, Lord Cornwallis, surprised at his pertinacity, rode near him.

'Campbell,' said he, 'what a fool are you to do thus. Disclose the names of the guilty and you shall be immediately released; otherwise, you have not fifteen minutes to

live. You are in an enemy's country, my lord,' said Campbell, 'you can better spare one man than two.'

By firmly adhering to his purpose, he died. This history furnish a similar instance of that strange devotion for a mistaken point of honour.

Justice Fighting against Mercy.

A young gentleman of family and fortune, who abandoned principles, having long distinguished himself, in the reign of Charles II., by highway robberies and other desperate crimes against society, was often apprehended, and sometimes convicted; but through the influence of his friends, had always been pardoned. He was at last tried for murder, and condemned. Many of the nobility interceded in his favour, but to no effect; the king was unable; he had the pen in his hand to sign the warrant for his execution, when one of the nobles threw a copy of a pardon on the table before him. The Duchess of Portsmouth, his favourite, standing at his right shoulder, laid her hand gently within her own, and con- sidering it to the paper which had the pardon on it, led his hand while he subscribed the warrant, the king not making the least re-

sistance. Among the indictments for theft, says a Concord, American paper, was one in which a person was a complainant against his own father, who, to appearance, was upwards of seventy years of age. The party resided at Salisbury. The son testified that his father, during the absence of the former, broke open his house, and took, carried away, and concealed sundry articles; that he procured a warrant, and went with an officer and found a part of the goods concealed in defendant's garret, &c. The officer, who is sheriff of the county, testified in substance the same as the complainant, in respect to the concealment of the goods; but on a cross-examination, said, that the door of the house was open, and no impediment was made to the search. On the part of the defendant, another son testified that the goods taken belonged to the father, and had been lent a number of years previous; that the father had divided his real property equally between himself and the complainant, taking a life-lease; that he had lent the articles in question to enable the son to prosecute his business; that differences had taken place, and the old man had requested these articles to be restored, but they were refused; and his father had gone to the house and taken them in open day, it being the only way in which they could be secured. When this witness was examined, the court inquired of the counsel for government, if he expected to impeach his testimony? It was answered, that it was not expected to impeach his character, but to do away his evidence, by proving that the son had purchased and paid for the articles. It not appearing that any more than a trespass would be proved, even if the old man did own the property, a *nolle prosequi* was entered, and the action was dismissed.

The indictment charged the old man with stealing to the amount of something like one hundred dollars. Had he been convicted, he must have been sentenced to hard labour in the state prison for a number of years. How unnatural, that a son, one too who it appeared had property gratuitously bestowed on him by his father, should seek for an occasion, in presence of the public, to swear to facts, a conviction of which must have consigned that father, already on the brink of the grave, to servitude and a dungeon!

George the Second.

The conviction of the inequality of many of our laws, was so strong in the mind of George II., that except in cases of murder, he would never sign a death warrant without betraying every symptom of reluctance and displeasure; twirling his hat, and walking in apparent anger round the chamber, and condemning in bad English, the severity of the English laws.

Singular Conviction.

It has sometimes happened, that a man who has committed a very atrocious crime, has been hanged for a circumstance attending the perpetration of it, which was in itself perfectly innocent. Thus, a servant who had attempted to murder his master (before the attempt to murder was made a capital offence), by giving him fifteen wounds, upon the head and different parts of the body, with a hatchet, was convicted and executed, not as an assassin, but as a burglar, because he had been obliged to lift up the latch of his master's door, to get to his chamber.

Prating at Venice.

A Genoese sculptor was sent for to Venice, to perform some curious piece of workmanship in the church belonging to the Jesuits, and as he was of great eminence, it was customary to go and see him at work. Two French travellers, among others, hearing of his performance, went to see him, and after admiring the beauties of the piece he was about, they insensibly led him into a conversation about the Venetian form of government. The Frenchmen launched out into bitter invectives against the senate and the republic, and very liberally bestowed the title of 'Pantaloons' upon the senators.

The poor Genoese defended the Venetians, but to no purpose, for as they were two to one, they soon silenced him. The next morning the council of state sent for the Genoese, who was brought before the senate, shuddering with fear. He had no idea of his crime, nor was anything farther from his thoughts than the conversation he had had with the two Frenchmen. From the senate, he was carried before the council of state, where he was asked if he should know the Frenchmen again, with whom he had the conversation the day before about the government of the republic? At this question his fears redoubled, and he answered in a faltering voice, that he had said nothing but what was greatly to the praise and honour of the senate. He was then ordered to look into the next chamber, where he saw the two Frenchmen, quite dead, and hanging from the ceiling. He judged, from this horrid spectacle, that his last hour was come; but he was remanded before the senate, when the doge, in a solemn manner, pronounced these words: 'Keep silence for the future, my friend, our republic has no

need of such advocates as you. After this, he was set at liberty; but his fears and apprehensions so far got the better of him, that he never returned to take leave of the Jesuit, but left Venice as fast as possible, and vowed he would never return to it again.

Discretionary Power.

The discretionary power which the severity of the English law puts into the hands of the judges, is often productive of the greatest inequality. Some years ago, two men were detected stealing some fowls in Suffolk. One of them was arrested on the spot, tried and convicted before Judge Buller, who not thinking the crime of any serious magnitude, sentenced him to three months' imprisonment. The other man was arrested some time afterwards, and convicted of the offence, at the ensuing assizes, before Justice Gould, who, entertaining a different opinion from Judge Buller, sentenced the unfortunate man to seven years' transportation; and it so happened, that of these two men, the one was leaving his prison after the expiration of his punishment, at the time the other was setting out for Botany Bay to undergo a more severe one, though both for the same offence.

English Criminal Code.

The English criminal code includes a list of nearly two hundred offences punishable with death; of these, more than one-half have been added during the last century. Upon an average, every year of that period has been marked by a penal enactment; besides those occasions in which the legislature, as if tired of the tedious retail method of confining one capital denunciation to a single statute, have actually heaped together fifteen or twenty of such enactments in one heterogeneous mass. There is one case in which, in the same paragraph, nineteen are thus huddled together: one is for civil trespass to the value of sixpence, and another for the worst species of murder.

When we come to inquire into the nature of the crimes of which this dreadful catalogue is composed, we find that it contains transgressions which scarcely deserve corporal punishment; while it omits enormities of the most atrocious kind. We find in it actions to which nothing but the terror of some impending danger to the state, could ever have given a criminal appearance; and obsolete offences, whose existence we learn only from those statutes, which are still left as bloody monuments of our history, while the causes which gave rise to them have long ceased. On the one hand, we see that to steal a horse or a sheep, to snatch a man's property out of his hands, and run away with it, or to take it privately from him, though only to the amount of a shilling; to steal to the amount of forty shillings in a dwelling house, or to the amount of five shillings in a shop, are all crimes

habitable with death. On the other hand, man to attempt the life of his own father, until the act of the late Lord Ellenborough, only a misdemeanour; to take away a man's life, and to brand his name with infamy by a premeditated perjury, is not considered as murder, nor thought deserving capital punishment. To burn a house, and endanger the lives and properties of a whole village is not visited with greater punishment than to destroy turnpike-gates on roads, or rails, or fences, belonging to such gates, or to cut a hop bine, or breaking down the side of a fish pond, whereby the fish are lost or destroyed.

We look into the legal definition of crimes, and discover still grosser inconsistencies; we find that under certain circumstances, a man may steal without being a thief, that a pick-pocket may be a highway-robber, and a shop-lifter a burglar; that to steal fruit ready to be gathered, is a felony; that to gather it and to eat it, is only a trespass; that to force one's way through a pane of glass at five o'clock in the afternoon in winter, to take out anything lying in the window, is a burglary, even if nothing be actually taken; though to break into a house with every circumstance of violence and outrage, at four o'clock in the morning in summer, for the purpose of robbing or even murdering the inhabitants, is only a misdemeanour; that to steal goods in a house, if the thief be seen to take them, is a transportable offence; but if he be not seen, that is, if the evidence of his guilt be uncertain, it is a capital felony, and punishable with death; that if a man firing at poultry or game, inadvertently kills a human being, he shall be adjudged a murderer and suffer death accordingly.

The Punishment of Death.

Those active philanthropists, Romilly, Brougham, Buxton, Bennet, and others, who have laboured so long and so successfully, have not yet succeeded in procuring a substantial amelioration of the penal code, and have at least so far unmasked its horrible cruelty, as to induce the hope that it cannot be adhered to. Among the mass of important evidence produced before the Parliamentary Committee, for inquiring into the effects of the criminal laws, and all of which was decisive against their severity, that of Mr. Farmer, the solicitor, was perhaps the most valuable; since he is a gentleman who has spent the last twenty years in the active duties of his profession, has been solicitor to two thousand prisoners, admitted to confidence, acquainted with their secrets, and has had full opportunity of observing the impressions produced upon their minds by the existence of the law; while of late years he has been employed by more prosecutors, and admitted to the same way to their secrets. With all this experience, he expresses his undoubting opinion, that the severity of the law generally

The gentleman on being asked — 'Have you any observations to make, with respect to the effect of capital punishment?' 'I have; first as to forgery; it appears to me, that the punishment of death has no tendency to prevent this crime. I have, in many instances, known prosecutors decline proceeding against offenders, because the punishment is so severe. Instances have come within my knowledge, of bankers and opulent individuals, who, rather than take away the life of a fellow-creature, have compromised with the delinquent. Instances have occurred of a prosecutor pretending to have had his pocket picked of the forged instrument; in other cases, prosecutors have destroyed, or refused to produce it; and when they have so refused, that they have stated publicly that it was because the person's life was in jeopardy. I will relate a very recent circumstance that occurred under my observation at the Old Bailey. A person, through whose hands a forged bill had passed, and whose appearance upon the trial was requisite to keep up the necessary chain of evidence, kept out of the way to prevent the conviction of the prisoner; it was a private bill of exchange. I also know another recent instance, where some private individuals, after the commitment of a prisoner, raised a thousand pounds for the purpose of satisfying some forged bills of exchange; and they declared, and I have good reason to know the fact, that if the punishment had been anything short of death, they would not have advanced a farthing, because he was a man whose conduct had been very disgraceful; but they were friends to the man's family, and wished to spare them the mortification and disgrace of a relative being executed, and therefore stepped forward and subscribed the before-mentioned sum. I have frequently seen persons withhold their testimony, even when under the solemn obligation of an oath to speak the whole truth; because they were aware that their testimony, if given to the full extent, would have brought the guilt home to the parties accused; and they have, therefore, kept back a material part of their testimony. In all capital indictments, with the exception of murder and some other heinous offences, I have often observed prosecutors show great reluctance to persevere, frequently forfeiting their recognizances.'

Mr. H. was then asked by the Committee — 'When you speak of the cases of murder and other heinous offences, do you mean offences accompanied with violence to the person, or which are likely in their consequences to inflict serious injury?' 'Certainly; those are the offences to which I allude: I know that many persons who are summoned to serve as jurymen at the Old Bailey, have the greatest disinclination to perform the duty, on account of the distress that would be done to their feelings, in consigning so many of their fellow-creatures to death, as they must now necessarily do, if serving throughout a session; and I have heard of some, who have bribed the summoning officer to put them at the bottom of their list, or keep them out alto-

gether, so as to prevent them from discharging this painful duty; and the instances I may say are innumerable, within my own observation, of jurymen giving verdicts, in capital cases, in favour of the prisoner, directly contrary to the evidence. I have seen acquittals in forgery, where the verdict had excited the astonishment of every one in court, because the guilt appeared unequivocal, and the acquittal could only be attributed to a strong feeling of sympathy and humanity in the jury, to save a fellow-creature from certain death. The old professed thieves are aware of this sympathy, and are desirous of being tried, rather on capital indictments than otherwise. It has frequently happened to myself, in my communications with them, that they have expressed a wish that they might be indicted capitally, because there was a greater chance of escape. In the course of my experience I have found that the punishment of death has no terror upon a common thief; indeed, it is much more the subject of ridicule among them, than of serious deliberation; their common expressions amongst themselves used to be, "such a one is to be twisted," and now it is, "such a one has to be top't." The certain approach of an ignominious death, does not seem to operate upon them; for after the warrant has come down for their execution, I have seen them treat it with levity. I once saw a man, for whom I had been concerned, the day before his execution, and on my offering him condolence, and expressing my sorrow at his situation, he replied, with an air of indifference, "Players at bowls must expect rubbers." Another man I heard say, that "it was only a few minutes, a kick and a struggle, and it was all over; and that if he was kept hanging for more than an hour, he should leave directions for an action to be brought against the sheriffs and others;" and others I have heard state, that "they should kick Jack Ketch in their last moments." I have seen some of the last separations with their friends, of persons about to be executed; where there was nothing of solemnity in it; and where it was more like parting for a country journey, than taking their last farewell. I heard one man say (in taking a glass of wine) to his companion, who was to suffer next morning, "Well, here's luck." The fate of one set of culprits, in some instances, has no effect even on those who are next to be reported. They play at ball, and pass their jokes, as if nothing was the matter.

Singular Indictments.

A writer in 'Dr. Anderson's Bee,' vol. 6, mentions the following singular indictments, as copied from an old MS. that had fallen into his hands; the writer begins his minutes thus:

'Memorandum—That one, the 19th daye of February, 1661, was the firste tyme that I was uppone the Jury for life and death at the Old Bayley, and then were these persons following tryde and for what crime.'

After mentioning the names of nine persons who were tried that day, and seventeen the next, for ordinary offences, are the following entries:

'Katherine Roberts is endited for selleing of a child to the spirits for 28s. 6d.; but after much heareinge of witnesses, it could not be clearly proved, and so she was found—not guilty.'

'Mary Grante is endited for beating of her husband, but nothings is made of this. The law says, that the husband cannot endite his wife for a battery.'

Extraordinary Patriot.

The following is a copy of a petition which was actually presented to Charles I., from John Goodman, a convict, who was sentenced to death in the year 1640, but reprieved by his majesty, to the great discontent of the people:

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
'The petition of John Goodman, condemned,
HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That whereas your majesty's petitioner hath understood of a great discontent in many of your majesty's subjects, at the gracious mercy your majesty was freely pleased to show upon your petitioner, by suspending the execution of the sentence of death pronounced against your petitioner:

These are humbly to beseech your majesty, rather to remit your petitioner to their mercie, than to let him live the subject of so great a discontent in your people, against your majesty, for it hath pleased God to give me grace to desire with the prophet, "That if this storm be raised for me, I may be cast into the sea, that others may avoid the tempest."

This is, most sacred sovereign, the petition of him that should esteem his blood well shed to cement the breach between your majesty, and your subjects.

'JOHN GOODMAN.'

Transportation.

Before the restoration of Charles the Second, transportation, as a punishment, was unknown in England; but after that time, persons found guilty of offences entitled to the benefit of clergy, and sentenced to be imprisoned, were transported to the British settlements in North America. They were not, however, sent away as perpetual slaves, but bound by indentures for seven years; and for the last three years they received wages, in order that a fund might be provided, to give them a fair chance of future success in life.

When the American revolution prevented the further transportation of convicts to that country, in 1775, the system of confining prisoners to hard labour on board the Hulk, and Houses of Correction, was adopted, until the discovery of New South Wales by Capt. Cook, in 1770 and 1777, opened a new field

transportation; the coast of Africa having previously explored in vain, for a fit location for a colony of criminals. The first migration to this new colony, was made in January, 1787, and consisted of two hundred and thirty-four convicts: the first settlement was at Sidney; and another has since been made in the adjacent island, Van Dieman's.

So prolific has this country been in that in a period of less than thirty years, a colony at Botany Bay amounts to upwards of twenty thousand persons, one-half of whom are convicts.

There is a large assemblage of men and women, many of whom are of the most desperate character, and are with difficulty kept in order; in order to restrain their irregularities, punishments of a summary kind are frequently used. Of these the most severe, next to the loss of life, is transportation to the Coal River, which is ordered usually by the judge, for a term of years or for life, as the enormity of the offence may require. Convicts dread this mode of punishment very much, because they are compelled to work in chains from sunrise to sunset, and are subject also to the restrictions of a highly penal description. The rigor of this sentence is, however, frequently relaxed in degree, as the criminal shows signs of amendment; and in very few cases is it found necessary to subject any of the convicts to a repetition of that sentence.

Sir Samuel Romilly.

As observed by Mr. Whitbread in the House of Commons, that although posterity, so advantaged by the efforts of Sir Samuel Romilly to reform the criminal code, will be loudest in their praise of his exertions, yet he was sure that the country was ready, with one voice, to say,

Presenti tibi largimur honores.

The lamented gentleman, after attending to the efforts of criminal law for a period of thirty years, was no sooner seated in the House of Commons, than he devoted his talents and experience to ameliorating the penal code; and his subject formed the most distinguished feature of his parliamentary life, and he per-

severed in it every succeeding session with unremitting zeal. If this virtuous senator did not possess the influence sufficient to carry the important measures he contemplated, his eloquence pleaded so powerfully, and excited such a host of advocates in his favour, that there is little doubt but many of his proposals will, ere long, be adopted. The repeal of the 39th of Elizabeth, which constituted it a capital offence, punishable with death, in soldiers and sailors found to beg in the streets; the erection of a Penitentiary for confining and employing convicts; and the mitigation of punishment in cases of larceny, were all principally the fruits of his enlightened exertions.

Sir James Mackintosh.

One of the ablest coadjutors of Sir Samuel Romilly in the mitigation of the severity of the penal code, is the gentleman to whom these Anecdotes are inscribed. Sir James Mackintosh, after filling the important office of Judge of Bombay for seven years, could, on taking leave of his office in 1811, thus address the Grand Jury: 'Since my arrival here, in May, 1804, the *punishment of death has not been inflicted by this court*. Now the population subject to our jurisdiction, either locally or personally, cannot be estimated at less than two hundred thousand persons.' He then examined into a comparative view of the state of crime, previous to, and during his judgeship, which he proved had diminished considerably during the latter period; the annual average of capital convictions, up to the time Sir James Mackintosh became Recorder of Bombay, was twenty; the annual average of persons who suffered death, seven. During his judgeship, the average of convictions annually, was fifteen only, (notwithstanding the increase of population) and this without a single execution. Well, therefore, might he add in his farewell charge, 'This small experiment has therefore been made, without diminution of the security of the lives and properties of men. Two hundred thousand men have been governed for seven years without any increase of crimes. If, therefore, any experience has been acquired, it has been safely and innocently gained.'



ANECDOTES OF INSTINCT.

'Reason serves when press'd,
But honest Instinct comes a volunteer.'—POPE.

Sabinus and his Dog.

AFTER the execution of Sabinus, the Roman general, who suffered death for his attachment to the family of Germanicus, his body was exposed to the public upon the precipice of the Gemoniæ, as a warning to all who should dare to befriend the house of Germanicus: no friend had courage to approach the body; one only remained true—his faithful dog. For three days the animal continued to watch the body; his pathetic howlings awakened the sympathy of every heart. Food was brought him, which he was kindly encouraged to eat; but on taking the bread, instead of obeying the impulse of hunger, he fondly laid it on his master's mouth, and renewed his lamentations; days thus passed, nor did he for a moment quit the body.

The body was at length thrown into the Tiber, and the generous creature still unwilling that it should perish, leaped into the water after it, and clasping the corpse between his paws, vainly endeavoured to preserve it from sinking.

Porus Saved by his Elephant.

King Porus, in a battle with Alexander the Great, being severely wounded, fell from the back of his elephant. The Macedonian soldiers supposing him dead, pushed forward, in order to despoil him of his rich clothing and accoutrements; but the faithful elephant standing over the body of its master, boldly repelled every one who dared to approach, and while the enemy stood at bay, took the bleeding Porus up with his trunk, and placed him again on his back. The troops of Porus came by this time to his relief, and the king was saved; but the elephant died of the wounds which it had received in the heroic defence of its master.

Death of Antiochus Revenged.

When Antiochus was slain in battle by Centaretrius the Galatian, the victor exultingly leaped on the back of the fallen king's horse; but he had no sooner done so, than

the animal, as if sensible that it was bestrode by the slayer of his master, instantly exhibited signs of the greatest fury, and bounding forwards to the top of a lofty rock, with a speed which defied every attempt of Centaretrius to disengage himself, leaped with him over the precipice, at the foot of which both were found dashed to pieces.

Rights of Hospitality.

'I have been assured,' says Chenier, in 'Present State of Morocco,' 'that a Brebe who went to hunt the lion, having proceeded far into a forest, happened to meet with the lion's whelps that came to caress him; the hunter stopped with the little animals, and waiting for the coming of the sire or the dam, took out his breakfast, and gave them a repast. The lioness arrived unperceived by the hunter, so that he had not time, or perhaps wanted the courage, to take to his gun. After having for some time looked at the man, she was thus feasting her young, the lioness went away, and soon after returned, bearing with her a sheep, which she came and laid at the huntsman's feet.

'The Brebe thus become one of the family, took this occasion of making a good meal, skinned the sheep, made a fire, and roasted the part, giving the entrails to the young lion. In his turn came also; and, as if respecting the rights of hospitality, showed not the least whatever of ferocity. Their guest the next day having finished his provisions, returned and came to a resolution never more to kill any of those animals. the noble generosity which he had so fully proved. He stroked and caressed the whelps at taking leave of them, and the dam and sire accompanied him till he was safely out of the forest.'

Grateful Lioness.

A dreadful famine raged at Buenos Ayres during the government of Don Diego de Mendoza, in Paraguay, yet Don Diego, afraid of giving the Indians a habit of spilling Spaniards' blood, forbade the inhabitants on pain of death to go into the fields in search of relief.

ing soldiers at all the outlets to the count-
with orders to fire upon those who should
pt to transgress his orders. A woman,
ver, called Maldonata, was artful enough
ude the vigilance of the guards, and
e; after wandering about the country
long time, she sought for shelter in a
but she had scarcely entered it, when
pied a lioness, the sight of which terri-
er. She was, however, soon quicted by
esses of the animal, who was in a state
ich assistance is of the most service,
ost gratefully remembered even by the
creation. Of this the lioness gave her
across the most sensible proofs. She
returned from searching after her own
subsistence, without laying a portion of
ie feet of Maldonata, until her whelps
strong enough to walk abroad, she took
out with her and never returned.
e time after, Maldonata fell into the
of the Spaniards, and being brought
o Buenos Ayres, was conducted before
Francis Ruiz de Galan, who then com-
d there, on the charge of having left
y contrary to orders. Galan was a man
elty, and condemned the unfortunate
a to a death which none but the most
tyrant could have thought of. He
d some soldiers to take her into the
y and leave her tied to a tree, either to
by hunger, or to be torn to pieces by
asts, as he expected. Two days after,
it the same soldiers to see what was
e of her; when, to their great surprise,
und her alive and unhurt, though sur-
d by lions and tigers, which a lioness
feet kept at some distance. As soon as
less perceived the soldiers, she retired
and enabled them to unbind Maldo-
ho related to them the history of this
whom she knew to be the same she
merly assisted in the cavern. On the
s taking Maldonata away, the lioness
upon her as unwilling to part. The
s reported what they had seen to the
nder, who could not but pardon a
who had been so singularly protected,
t appearing more inhuman than lions
lives.

More Faithful than Favoured.

Sir Harry Lee, of Ditchley, in Oxfordshire,
r of the Earls of Lichfield, had a
which guarded the house and yard,
d never met with the least particular
on from his master, and was retained
s utility alone, and not from any par-
regard. One night, as his master was
to his chamber, attended by his *faith-*
et, an Italian, the mastiff silently fol-
him upstairs, which he had never been
to do before, and, to his master's
ment, presented himself in his bed-
Being deemed an intruder, he was in-
ordered to be turned out; which being
the poor animal began scratching
y at the door, and howling loudly for

admission. The servant was sent to drive
him away. Discouragement could not check
his intended labour of love, or rather provid-
ential impulse; he returned again, and was
more importunate than before to be let in.
Sir Harry, weary of opposition, bade the ser-
vant open the door, that they might see what
he wanted to do. This done, the mastiff with
a wag of his tail, and a look of affection at his
lord, deliberately walked up, and crawling
under the bed, laid himself down as if desirous
to take up his night's lodging there. To save
farther trouble, but not from any partiality for
his company, the indulgence was allowed.
About the solemn hour of midnight the cham-
ber door opened, and a person was heard
stepping across the room; Sir Harry started
from his sleep; the dog sprang from his
covert, and seizing the unwelcome disturber,
fixed him to the spot! All was dark; and Sir
Harry rang his bell in great trepidation, in
order to procure a light. The person who was
pinned to the floor by the courageous mastiff
roared for assistance. It was found to be the
valet, who little expected such a reception.
He endeavoured to apologize for his intrusion,
and to make the reasons which induced him
to take this step appear plausible; but the
importunity of the dog, the time, the place,
the manner of the valet, all raised suspicions
in Sir Harry's mind; and he determined to
refer the investigation of the business to a
magistrate. The perfidious Italian, alter-
nately terrified by the dread of punishment,
and soothed with the hopes of pardon, at
length confessed that it was his intention to
murder his master, and then rob the house.
This diabolical design was frustrated only by
the instinctive attachment of the dog to his
master, which seemed to have been directed
on this occasion by the interference of Provi-
dence. How else could the poor animal
know the meditated assassination? How else
could he have learned to submit to injury and
insult for his well-meant services, and finally
seize and detain a person, who, it is probable,
had shewn him more kindness than his owner
had ever done? It may be impossible to
reason on such a topic, but the facts are indis-
putable. A full-length picture of Sir Harry,
with the mastiff by his side, and the words,
'More faithful than favoured,' are still to be
seen at the family seat at Ditchley, and are a
lasting monument of the gratitude of the
master, the ingratitude of the servant, and the
fidelity of the dog.

The Broken Heart.

A few days before the fall of Robespierre,
a revolutionary tribunal in one of the depart-
ments of the North of France, condemned to
death M. des R——, an ancient magistrate,
and most estimable man, as guilty of conspi-
racy. M. des R. had a water spaniel, ten or
twelve years old, of the small breed, which
had been brought up by him, and had never
quitted him. Des R. saw his family dispersed
by a system of terror; some had taken flight;

others were arrested and carried into distant goals; his domestics were dismissed: his friends had either abandoned him, or concealed themselves; he was himself in prison, and everything in the world was silent to him, except his dog. This faithful animal had been refused admittance into the prison. He had returned to his master's house, and found it shut; he took refuge with a neighbour who received him; but that posterity may judge rightly of the times in which we have existed, it must be added, that this man received him with trembling, and in secret, dreading lest his humanity for an animal should conduct him to the scaffold. Every day at the same hour the dog left the house, and went to the door of the prison. He was refused admittance, but he constantly passed an hour before it, and then returned. His fidelity at length won upon the porter, and he was one day allowed to enter. The dog saw his master and clung to him. It was difficult to separate them, but the gaoler forced him away, and the dog returned to his retreat. He came back the next morning, and every day; once each day he was admitted. He licked the hand of his friend, looked him in the face, again licked his hand, and went away of himself.

When the day of sentence arrived, notwithstanding the crowd, notwithstanding the guard, the dog penetrated into the hall, and crouched himself between the legs of the unhappy man, whom he was about to lose for ever. The judges condemned him; he was reconducted to the prison, and the dog for that time did not quit the door. The fatal hour arrives; the prison opens; the unfortunate man passes out; it is his dog that receives him at the threshold. He clings upon his hand, that hand which so soon must cease to pat his caressing head. He follows him; the axe falls; the master dies; but the tenderness of the dog cannot cease. The body is carried away; the dog walks at its side; the earth receives it; he lays himself upon the grave.

There he passed the first night, the next day, and the second night. The neighbour in the meantime unhappy at not seeing him, risks himself in searching for the dog: guesses, from the extent of his fidelity, the asylum he had chosen, finds him, caresses him, and makes him eat. An hour afterwards the dog escaped, and regained his favourite place. Three months passed away, each morning of which he came to seek his food, and then returned to the grave of his master; but each day he was more sad, more meagre, more languishing, and it was evident that he was gradually reaching his end. An endeavour was made, by chaining him up, to wean him, but nature will triumph. He broke his fetters; escaped; returned to the grave, and never quitted it more. It was in vain that they tried to bring him back. They carried him food, but he ate no longer. For four-and-twenty hours he was seen employing his weakened limbs in digging up the earth that separated him from the remains of the being

he had so much loved. Passion gave him strength, and he gradually approached the body; his labours of affection vehemently increased; his efforts became convulsive; he shrieked in his struggles; his faithful heart gave way, and he breathed out his last gasp, as if he knew that he had found his master.

Affecting Reproof

Among a pack of hounds kept by a gentleman in the middle of the last century, was a favourite bitch that he was very fond of, and which he used to suffer to come and lie in his parlour. This bitch had a litter of whelps, and the gentleman one day took them out of the kennel, when the bitch was absent, and drowned them. Shortly afterwards she came into the kennel, and, missing her offspring, sought them most anxiously; at length she found them drowned in the pond. She then brought them one by one, and laid them at her master's feet in the parlour; and when she had brought the last whelp, she looked up in her master's face, laid herself down, and died.

Comedy of Quadrupeds.

In a play which Germanicus' Cæsar exhibited at Rome, in the reign of Tiberius, there were twelve elephant performers, six males and six females, clothed as men and women. After they had, at the command of the keeper, danced and performed a thousand curious antics, a most sumptuous feast was served up for their refreshment. The table was covered with all sorts of dainties, and golden goblets filled with the most precious wines; and beds covered with purple carpets were placed around for the animals to lie upon, after the manner of the Romans when feasting. On these carpets the elephants laid themselves down, and at a given sign they reached out their trunks to the table, and fell to eating and drinking with as much propriety as if they had been so many human citizens.

Elephant Rope Dancing.

The ease with which the elephant is taught to perform the most agile and difficult feats, forms a remarkable contrast to its huge unwieldiness of size. Aristotle tells us, that in ancient times elephants were taught by their keepers to throw stones at a mark, to cast up arms in the air, and catch them again on their fall; and to dance not merely on the earth, but on the rope. The first, according to Suetonius, who exhibited elephant rope dancers, was Galba at Rome. The manner of teaching them to dance on the ground was simple enough; but the association of music and a hot floor; but we are not informed how they were taught to skip the rope, or whether it was the tight or the slack rope, or how high the rope might be

lence of history on these points is fortunate for the figurantes of the present day ; but for this, their fame might have been eclipsed. Elephants may in the days of Rome have been taught to dance on rope, but when was an elephant ever to skip on a rope over the heads of an ace, or to caper amidst a blaze of fire aloft in the air ? What would Aristotle have thought of his dancing elephants, if he had seen Madame Saqui ?

Dancing Ass.

A Leo, in his ' *Descriptio Africae*,' printed year 1556, relates an account of an ass, if true, proves that this animal is not so wild and indocile as he is commonly reputed. He says, 'When the Mahommedan-ship is over, the common people of resort to the part of the suburbs called Illoch, to see the exhibition of stage asses, and mountebanks who teach camels, and dogs, to dance. The dancing of asses is diverting enough ; for after he has danced and capered about, his master tells him that the Soldan meaning to build a great fort, intends to employ all the asses in the city for mortar, stones, and other materials ; and when the ass falls down with his heels under him, closing his eyes and extending his legs, as if he were dead. This done, the master begs some assistance of the company, to pick up for the loss of the dead ass ; and when he has got all he can, he gives them to know truly his ass is not dead, but only being in the state of his master's necessity, played that he is dead to procure some provender. Then he bids the ass to rise, who still lies in the same posture, notwithstanding all the blows he gives him ; till at last he proclaims, by the virtue of an edict by the Soldan, all the asses and ladies are bound to ride out on the next day upon the comeliest asses they can find, in order to see a triumphal show, and to entertain their asses with oats and Nile.' These words are no sooner pronounced than the ass starts up, prances, and leaps for joy. The master then declares that his ass has been pitched upon by the warden of his prison to carry his deformed and ugly wife ; and when the ass lowers his ears, and limps forward with one of his legs as if he were lame. Then the master, alleging that his ass admires some women, commands him to single out the prettiest lady in company ; and accordingly he makes his choice by going round and touching one of the prettiest with his nose, and to the great amusement of the company.

Canine Tragedian.

'Myself,' says Plutarch, 'saw a dog at Athens, whose master had taught him many tricks, and amongst others the following : he soaked a piece of bread in a certain liquor, which was indeed somniferous, but

which he would have had us believe was a deadly potion. The dog, as soon as he had swallowed it, affected to quake, tremble, and stagger, as if quite stupefied. At length it fell down, seemed to breathe its last, and became stretched out in all the stiffness of death, suffering any person to pull it about or turn it over without indicating the least symptom of life. The master was now lavish in his endeavours to restore the poor creature to life ; and after a short time, when it understood by a secret hint that its time for recovery was come, it began by little and little to revive, as if awakened from a dead sleep, slowly lifted up its head, and opening its eyes, gazed with a wild, vacant stare on all around. In a few minutes it got upon its feet, shook itself as it were free from its enthrallment, and recognising its master, ran merrily up to him. The whole of this scene was performed so naturally, that all who were present (among whom was the Emperor Vespasian) were exceedingly delighted.'

Profidential Safe Conduct.

Frejus, in his ' *Relation of a Voyage made into Mauritania*,' translated into English, and printed in the year 1671, gives a singular anecdote of a lion, which he says was related to him in that country by very credible persons. About the year 1614 or 1615, two Christian slaves at Morocco made their escape, travelling by night, and hiding themselves in the tops of trees during the day, their Arab pursuers frequently passing by them. One night, while pursuing their journey, they were much astonished and alarmed to see a great lion close by them, who walked when they walked, and stood still when they stood. Thinking this a safe conduct sent to them by Providence, they took courage, and travelled in the daytime in company with the lion. The horsemen who had been sent in pursuit came up, and would have seized upon them, but the lion interposed, and they were suffered to pass on. Every day these poor fugitives met with some one or other of the human race who wanted to seize them, but the lion was their protector until they reached the sea coast in safety, when he left them.

The Dog of Montargis.

The fame of an English dog has been deservedly transmitted to posterity by a monument in basso-relievo, which still remains on the chimney-piece of the grand hall, at the Castle of Montargis in France. The sculpture, which represents a dog fighting with a champion, is explained by the following narrative :

Aubri de Mondidier, a gentleman of family and fortune, travelling alone through the Forest of Bondi, was murdered and buried under a tree. His dog, an English blood-hound, would not quit his master's grave for several days, till at length, compelled by

hunger, he proceeded to the house of an intimate friend of the unfortunate Aubri's at Paris, and by his melancholy howling seemed desirous of expressing the loss they had both sustained. He repeated his cries, ran to the door, looked back to see if any one followed him, returned to his master's friend, pulled him by the sleeve, and with dumb eloquence entreated him to go with him.

The singularity of all these actions of the dog, added to the circumstance of his coming there without his master, whose faithful companion he had always been, prompted the company to follow the animal, who conducted them to a tree, where he renewed his howl, scratching the earth with his feet, and significantly entreating them to search that particular spot. Accordingly, on digging, the body of the unhappy Aubri was found.

Some time after, the dog accidentally met the assassin, who is styled, by all the historians that relate this fact, the Chevalier Macaire; when instantly seizing him by the throat, he was with great difficulty compelled to quit his prey.

In short, whenever the dog saw the chevalier, he continued to pursue and attack him with equal fury. Such obstinate virulence in the animal, confined only to Macaire, appeared very extraordinary, especially to those who at once recollected the dog's remarkable attachment to his master, and several instances in which Macaire's envy and hatred to Aubri de Mondidier had been conspicuous.

Additional circumstances created suspicion, and at length the affair reached the royal ear. The king (Louis VIII.) accordingly sent for the dog, who appeared extremely gentle till he perceived Macaire in the midst of several noblemen, when he ran fiercely towards him, growling at and attacking him as usual.

The king, struck with such a collection of circumstantial evidence against Macaire, determined to refer the decision to the chance of battle; in other words, he gave orders for a combat between the chevalier and the dog. The lists were appointed in the Isle of Notre Dame, then an unenclosed, uninhabited place, and Macaire was allowed for his weapon a great cudgel.

An empty cask was given to the dog as a place of retreat, to enable him to recover breath. Everything being prepared, the dog no sooner found himself at liberty than he ran around his adversary, avoiding his blows, and menacing him on every side, till his strength was exhausted; then springing forward, he gripped him by the throat, threw him on the ground, and obliged him to confess his guilt, in the presence of the king and the whole court. In consequence of this, the chevalier, after a few days, was convicted upon his own acknowledgment, and beheaded on a scaffold in the Isle of Notre Dame.

The above recital is translated from 'Mémoires sur les Duels,' and is cited by many critical writers, particularly by Julius Scaliger and Montfaucon, who has given an engraved representation of the combat between the dog and the chevalier.

Wrens Learning to Sing.

A wren built her nest in a box, so situated that a family had an opportunity of observing the mother bird instructing the young ones in the art of singing peculiar to the species. She fixed herself on one side of the opening in the box, directly before her young, and began by singing over her whole song very distinctly. One of the young then attempted to imitate her. After proceeding through a few notes, its voice broke, and it lost the tune. The mother immediately recommenced where the young one had failed, and went very distinctly through the remainder. The young bird made a second attempt, commencing where it had ceased before, and continuing the song as long as it was able; and when the note was again lost, the mother began anew where it stopped and completed it. Then the young one resumed the tune and finished it. This done, the mother sang over the whole series of notes a second time with great precision; and a second of the young attempted to follow her. The wren pursued the same course with this as with the first; and so with the third and fourth. It sometimes happened that the young one would lose the tune three, four, or more times in the same attempt; in which case the mother uniformly began where they ceased, and sung the remaining notes; and when each had completed the trial, she repeated the whole strain. Sometimes two of the young commenced together. The mother observed the same conduct towards them as when one sang alone. This was repeated day after day, and several times in a day.

Nest Building.

Most of the small birds of Southern Africa (says Mr. Barrow) construct their nests in such a manner, that they can be entered only by one small orifice, and many suspend them from the slender extremities of high branches. A species of loxia, or crossbeak, always hangs its nest on a branch extending over a river or pool of water. It is shaped exactly like a chemist's retort; is suspended from the head, and the shank of eight or nine inches long, at the bottom of which is the aperture, almost touches the water. It is made of green grass firmly put together, and curiously woven. Another small bird, the *Parus Capensis*, or Cape Titmouse, constructs its nest of the *pappus*, or down of a species of asclepias. This nest is made of the texture of flannel, and the finest fleecy hosiery is not more soft. Near the upper end projects a small tube about an inch in length, with an orifice about three-fourths of an inch in diameter. Immediately under the tube is a small hole in the side, that has no communication with the interior part of the nest; in this hole the male sits at night, and thus they are both screened from the weather. The sparrow in Africa hedges round its nest with thorns; and even the swallow under the eaves of houses, or in the rifts of rocks, makes a tube to its nest of

even inches in length. The same kind in Northern Europe, having nothing in common with monkys, snakes, and other animals, construct open nests.

Dog and Goose.

A Canadian goose, kept at East Barnet, in Essexshire, a few years ago, was observed to behave itself in the strongest and most gentlemanly manner to the house dog, but refused to go into the kennel except in bad weather; whenever the dog barked, she would cackle, and run at the person who proposed the dog barked at, and try to bite by the heels. Sometimes she would go to feed with the dog; but this she was not treated his faithful companion with patience, would not suffer. This bird would not go to roost with the others at night, driven by main force; and when in the field; they were turned into the field, she never stir from the yard gate, but sit there the whole day in sight of the dog. When orders were given that she should not be molested; being thus left to herself, about the yard with him all night, and particularly remarkable, whenever the dog went out of the yard and ran into the field, the goose always accompanied him, trying to keep up with him by the assistance of her wings, and in this way of running, she followed him all over the parish. An extraordinary affection of the goose to the dog, which continued till his death, was after it was first observed, is supposed to have originated in his having saved her from a fox, in the very moment of distress. When the dog was ill, the goose never left him, day or night, not even to feed; was apprehended that she would have been killed to death, had not a pan of corn been put every day close to the kennel. At last, when the goose generally sat in the yard, and would not suffer any one to touch it, except the person who brought her food, or her own food. The end of this affection was melancholy; for when the dog died, she would still keep possession of the kennel; and a new house dog being introduced, which in size and colour resembled the old one, the poor goose was unhappily deceived, and going into the kennel as usual, was seized by the throat and killed her.

Canine Sheep-Stealer.

A shepherd, who was hanged for sheep-stealing about forty years ago, used to commit his depredations by means of his dog. He intended to steal any sheep, he would send the dog to perform the business. In his view, under pretence of looking at the sheep, with an intention to purchase them, he would go through the flock with the dog at his heels, whom he secretly gave a signal, so as to let him know the particular sheep he wanted, perhaps to the number of ten or

twelve, out of a flock of some hundreds; he then went away, and from a distance of several miles, sent back the dog by himself in the night time, who picked out the individual sheep that had been pointed out to him, separated them from the flock, and drove them before him, frequently a distance of ten or twelve miles, till he came up with his master, to whom he delivered up his charge.

Calculating Crow.

A Scotch newspaper of the year 1816, states that a carrion crow, perceiving a brood of fourteen chickens under the care of the parent hen, on a lawn, picked up one; but on a young lady opening the window and giving an alarm, the robber dropped his prey. In the course of the day, however, the plunderer returned, accompanied by thirteen other crows, when every one seized his bird, and carried off the whole brood at once.

Canine Smugglers.

In the Netherlands, they use dogs of a very large and strong breed, for the purpose of draught. They are harnessed like horses, and chiefly employed in drawing little carts with fish, vegetables, &c., to market. Previous to the year 1795, such dogs were also employed in smuggling; which was the more easy, as they are exceedingly docile. The dogs were trained to go backwards and forwards between two places on the frontiers, without any person to attend them. Being loaded with little parcels of goods, lace, &c., like mules, they set out at midnight, and only went when it was perfectly dark. An excellent quick-scented dog always went some paces before the others, stretched out his nose towards all quarters, and when he scented custom-house officers, &c., turned back, which was the signal for immediate flight. Concealed behind bushes, in ditches, &c., the dogs waited till all was safe, then proceeded on their journey, and reached at last beyond the frontier the dwelling house of the receiver of the goods, who was in the secret. But here, also, the leading dog only at first shewed himself; on a certain whistle, which was a signal that all was right, they all hastened up. They were then unloaded, taken to a convenient stable, where there was a good layer of hay, and well fed. There they rested until midnight, and then returned in the same manner back, over the frontiers.

Odd Fraternity.

A gentleman travelling through Mecklenburg about thirty years ago, was witness to the following curious circumstance in the post-house at New Stargard. After dinner, the landlord placed on the floor a large dish of soup, and gave a loud whistle. Immediately there came into the room a mastiff, a fine

Angora cat, an old raven, and a remarkably large rat with a bell about its neck. These four animals went to the dish, and without disturbing each other, fed together; after which the dog, cat, and rat, lay before the fire, while the raven hopped about the room.

Mouse of Husafell.

The mouse which has given to Husafell, in Jutland, a celebrity which it might not have otherwise possessed, is supposed by Alafsen and Porelsen to be a variation of the wood or economical mouse. In a country, says Mr. Pennant, where berries are but thinly dispersed, these little animals are obliged to cross rivers to make their distant forages. In returning with their booty to their magazines, they are obliged to recross the stream; of the mode of doing which Mr. Alafsen gives the following account:—'The party, which consists of from six to ten, select a piece of dried cow-dung, on which they place the berries on a heap in the middle; then, by their united force, bring it to the water's edge, and after launching it, embark and place themselves round the heap, with their heads joined over it, and their backs to the water, their tails pendent in the stream, serving the purpose of rudders.'

Some doubts having been entertained as to the truth of this *moussaic* mode of navigation, a recent traveller in Jutland made a particular point of inquiring of different individuals as to the fact, and the confirmation which he furnishes is most clear and explicit. 'It is now,' he says, 'established as an important fact in natural history, by the testimony of two eyewitnesses of unquestionable veracity, the clergyman of Briamslok and Madame Benedictson of Skikesholm; both of whom assured me that they had seen the expedition repeatedly. Madame B. in particular, recollected having spent a whole afternoon, in her younger days, at the margin of a small lake, on which these navigators had embarked, and amused herself and her companions by driving them away from the side of the lake as they approached them.'

Bear and Child.

Leopold, Duke of Loraine, had a bear called Marco, of the sagacity and sensibility of which we have the following remarkable instance. During the winter of 1709, a Savoyard boy, ready to perish with cold in a barn, in which he had been put by a good woman, with some more of his companions, thought proper to enter Marco's hut, without reflecting on the danger which he ran in exposing himself to the mercy of the animal which occupied it. Marco, however, instead of doing any injury to the child, took him between his paws, and warmed him by pressing him to his breast until the next morning, when he suffered him to depart to ramble about the city. The Savoyard returned in the evening

to the hut, and was received with the same affection. For several days he had no other retreat, and it added not a little to his joy, to perceive that the bear regularly reserved part of his food for him. A number of days passed in this manner without the servants knowing anything of the circumstance. At length, when one of them came one day to bring the bear his supper, rather later than ordinary, he was astonished to see the animal roll his eyes in a furious manner, and seeming as if he wished him to make as little noise as possible, for fear of awaking the child, whom he clasped to his breast. The animal, though ravenous, did not appear the least moved with the food which was placed before him. The report of this extraordinary circumstance was soon spread at court, and reached the ears of Leopold; who, with part of his courtiers, was desirous of being satisfied of the truth of Marco's generosity. Several of them passed the night near his hut, and beheld with astonishment that the bear never stirred as long as his guest showed an inclination to sleep. At break of day the child awoke, was very much ashamed to find himself discovered, and, fearing that he would be punished for his rashness, begged pardon. The bear however caressed him, and endeavoured to prevail on him to eat what had been brought to him the evening before, which he did at the request of the spectators, who conducted him to the prince. Having learned the whole history of this singular alliance, and the time which it had continued, Leopold ordered care to be taken of the little Savoyard, who would doubtless have soon made his fortune, had he not died a short time after.

Generous Revenge.

A young man, desirous of getting rid of his dog, took it along with him to the Seine. He hired a boat, and rowing into the stream, threw the animal in. The poor creature attempted to climb up the side of the boat, but his master, whose intention was to drown him, constantly pushed him back with the oar. In doing this, he fell himself into the water, and would certainly have been drowned, had not the dog, as soon as he saw his master struggling in the stream, suffered the boat to float away, and held him above water till assistance arrived, and his life was saved.

Are Beasts mere Machines?

Dr. Arnaud d'Antilli one day talking with the Duke de Liancourt upon the new philosophy of M. Descartes, maintained that beasts were mere machines, and had no sort of reason to direct them; and that when they cried or made a noise, it was only one of the wheels of the clock or machine that made it. The duke, who was of a different opinion, replied, 'I have now in my kitchen two turnspits, who take their turns regularly every other day to get into the wheel; one of them, not liking his employ-

hid himself on the day that he should see that his companion was forced to the wheel in his stead, but crying and wagging his tail, he made a sign for those in lance to follow him. He immediately started them to a garret, where he dismissed the idle dog, and killed him immediately.

Shrewd Guesser.

A French officer, more remarkable for his wit and spirit than his wealth, had served the Venetian republic for some years with assiduity and fidelity, but had not met with the reward which he merited. One day he met with a nobleman whom he had often flattered in vain, but on whose friendship he had some reliance. The reception he met with was cool and mortifying; the nobleman turned his back upon the necessitous veteran, and left him to find his way to the street. In a suite of apartments magnificently furnished, he passed them lost in thought; resting his eyes on a sumptuous sideboard, and a valuable collection of Venetian glass, and formed in the highest degree of indignation, stood on a damask cloth as a preparation for a splendid entertainment, he took a corner of the linen, and turning to a large English mastiff which always accompanied him, said to the animal, in a kind of confidence of mind, 'Here, my poor old friend; how these haughty tyrants indulge themselves, and yet how we are treated!' The poor dog looked his master in the face, and gave tokens that he understood him. The officer walked on, but the mastiff slackened his pace, and laying hold of the damask cloth with his teeth, at one hearty pull brought all down on the sideboard in shivers to the ground, thus depriving the insolent noble of the brilliant exhibition of splendour.

The Cape Swallow.

Captain Carmichael, an active and intelligent observer, relates the following fact respecting the natural history of the swallow. These are birds of passage at the southern extremities of Africa, as well as in Europe. He returned to the Cape of Good Hope in the month of September, and quit it again in the month of April. Captain Carmichael happened to be stationed for some time at the eastern extremity of the colony, a pair of the *hirundo* soon after their arrival, built their nest on the outside of the house wherein he was fixing it against the angle formed by the wall and the board which supported the roof. The whole of this nest was covered with mud, and was furnished with a long neck or passage through which the birds entered and departed. It resembled the longitudinal section of a Florence oil flask. This nest having been discovered after the young birds had quitted the nest, the owner, as he is disposed to believe, in cutting the old foundation in the month

of February following; but he remarked on this occasion an improvement in the construction of it, which can hardly be referred to the dictates of mere instinct. In building the nest, the birds were satisfied with a single opening, but this one was furnished with an opening on each side; and on watching their motions, he observed that they invariably entered at one side, and went out at the other. One object obtained by this improvement, was saving themselves the trouble of turning in the nest, and thus avoiding any derangement of its interior economy. But the chief object appeared to be to facilitate their escape from the attacks of serpents, which harbour in the roofs of thatched houses, or crawl up along the walls, and not unfrequently devour both the mother and her young.

Newfoundland Dog.

One of the magistrates in Harbour Grace, in Newfoundland, had an old dog of the regular web-footed species peculiar to this island, who was in the habit of carrying a lantern before his master at night, as steadily as the most attentive servant could do, stopping short when his master made a stop, and proceeding when he saw him disposed to follow. If his master was absent from home, on the lantern being fixed to his mouth, and the command given, 'Go fetch thy master,' he would immediately set off and proceed directly to the town, which lay at the distance of more than a mile from the place of his master's residence: he would then stop at the door of every house which he knew his master was in the habit of frequenting, and laying down his lantern, growl and strike the door, making all the noise in his power until it was opened; if his master was not there, he would proceed farther in the same manner, until he had found him. If he had accompanied him only once into a house, this was sufficient to induce him to take that house in his round.

Remorse.

A few years ago an elephant at Dekan, from some motive of revenge, killed his *cornack*, or conductor. The man's wife, who beheld the dreadful scene, took her two children, and threw them at the feet of the enraged animal, saying, 'Since you have slain my husband, take my life also, as well as that of my children.' The elephant instantly stopped, relented, and as if stung with remorse, took up the eldest boy with his trunk, placed him on its neck, adopted him for his *cornack*, and would never afterwards allow any other person to mount it.

Choice Retaliation.

A tame elephant, kept by a merchant at Beucoolen, was suffered to go at large. The animal used to walk about the streets in as quiet and familiar a manner as any of the in-

habitants; and delighted much in visiting the shops, particularly those which sold herbs and fruit, where he was well received, except by a couple of brutal cobblers, who, without any cause, took offence at the generous creature, and once or twice attempted to wound his proboscis with their awls. The noble animal, who knew it was beneath him to crush them, did not disdain to chastise them by other means. He filled his large trunk with a considerable quantity of water, not of the cleanest quality, and advancing to them as usual, covered them at once with a dirty flood. The fools were laughed at, and the punishment applauded.

Learned Dog.

The celebrated Leibnitz relates an account of a dog who was taught to speak, and could call in an intelligible manner for tea, coffee, chocolate, &c.

The dog was of a middling size, and the property of a peasant in Saxony. A little boy, the peasant's son, imagined that he perceived in the dog's voice an indistinct resemblance to certain words, and was therefore determined to teach him to speak distinctly. For this purpose he spared neither time nor pains with his pupil, who was about three years old when his learned education commenced; and at length he made such progress in language, as to be able to articulate no less than thirty words. It appears, however, that he was somewhat of a truant, and did not very willingly exert his talents, being rather pressed into the service of literature, and it was necessary that the words should be first pronounced to him each time before he spoke. The French academicians who mention this anecdote, add, that unless they had received the testimony of so great a man as Leibnitz, they should scarcely have dared to relate the circumstance.

Horse and Greyhound.

Various have been the opinions upon the difference of speed between a well-bred greyhound and a racehorse, if opposed to each other. Wishes had been frequently indulged by the sporting world, that some criterion could be adopted by which the superiority of speed could be fairly ascertained, when the following circumstance accidentally took place, and afforded some information upon what had been previously considered a matter of great uncertainty. In the month of December, 1800, a match was to have been run over Doncaster racecourse for one hundred guineas, but one of the horses having been drawn, a mare started alone, that by running the ground she might ensure the wager; when having run about one mile in the four, she was accompanied by a greyhound bitch, which joined her from the side of the course, and emulatively entering into the competition, continued to race with the mare for the other three miles,

keeping nearly head and head, and affording an excellent treat to the field by the energetic exertions of each. At passing the distance post, five to four was betted in favour of the greyhound; when parallel with the stand, it was even betting, and any person might have taken his choice from five to ten; the mare, however, had the advantage by a head at the termination of the course.

The Goat.

A gentleman who had taken an active share in the rebellion of 1715, after the battle of Preston, escaped into the West Highlands, where a lady, a near relative, afforded him an asylum. A faithful servant conducted him to the mouth of a cave, and furnished him with an abundant store of provisions. The fugitive crept in at a low aperture, dragging his store along. When he reached a wider and loftier expanse, he found some obstacle before him. He drew his dirk, but unwilling to strike, lest he might take the life of a companion in seclusion, he stooped down, and discovered a goat with her kid stretched on the ground. He soon perceived that the animal was in great pain, and, feeling her body and limbs ascertained that her leg was fractured. He bound it up with his garter, and offered her a share of the bread beside him; but she stretched out her tongue, as if to apprise him that her mouth was parched with thirst. He gave her water, which she took readily, and then ate some bread. After midnight he ventured out of the cave; all was still. He plucked an armful of grass and cut tender twigs, which the goat accepted with manifestations of joy and thankfulness. The prisoner derived much comfort in having a living creature in this dungeon, and he caressed and fed her tenderly. The man who was entrusted to bring him supplies fell sick; and when another attempted to penetrate into the cavern, the goat furiously opposed him, presenting her horns in all directions, till the fugitive, hearing a disturbance, came forward. This new attendant giving the watchword, removed every doubt of his good intentions and the amazon of the recess obeyed her benefactor in permitting him to advance. The gentleman was convinced, that had his hand of military attacked the cavern, his grateful patient would have died in his defence.

The devices of the goat to hide her young from the fox are very remarkable. She discerns her enemy at great distance, conceals her treasure in a thicket, and boldly intercepts the formidable marauder. He seldom fails to approach the place where the kid is crouching, but the dam, with her horns, receives him at all points, and never yields to spent with fatigue and agitation. If a high crag, or stone, should be near when she descries the fox, she mounts upon it, taking her young one under her body. The fox goes round and round, to catch an opportunity for making a spring at the little trembler, and

have been instances of his seizing it; the goat thrusts her horns into his flank with such force as to be often unable to withstand them, and all three have frequently found dead at the bottom of the precipice.

It is a singular fact, that the goats of their progeny to several generations, each tribe herds together on the hills, or in the cot in separate parties.

Child Saved.

A shepherd who inhabited one of those valleys or glens which intersect the Grampian mts, in one of his excursions to look after his flock, happened to carry along with him of his children, an infant of three years old. This is not an unusual practice among the Highlanders, who accustom their children from their earliest infancy to endure the rigours of the climate. After traversing the mountains for some time, attended by his faithful shepherd, he found himself under the necessity of ascending a summit at some distance to have a more extensive view of his country.

As the ascent was too fatiguing for the child, he left him on a small plain at the foot of the mountain, with strict injunctions not to stir from the spot till his return. Scarcely, however, had he reached the summit, when the horizon was obscured by one of those impenetrable mists frequently descend so rapidly amidst the Grampian mountains, as, in the space of a few minutes, almost to turn day to night. The father instantly hastened back to find his child; but owing to the unusual darkness, and his own trepidation, he unfortunately lost his way in the descent. After a fruitless search of many hours, he discovered that he had reached the bottom of the valley, and returned to his own cottage. To renew the search that night was equally fruitless and useless; he was therefore compelled to go to bed, although he had lost both his child and the shepherd who had attended him faithfully for many years. Next morning, by break of day, the shepherd, accompanied by a band of his neighbours, set out in search of his child; but a day spent in fruitless fatigue, he was at last compelled by the approach of evening to descend from the mountain. On returning to his cottage, he found that the dog who had lost the day before, had been seen on receiving a piece of cake, had gone off again. For several successive days the shepherd renewed the search, and still, on returning home disheartened in the evening, he found that the dog had been home, and, on receiving his allowance of cake, had instantly disappeared.

Struck with this singular circumstance, he remained at home one day; and the dog, as usual, departed with his allowance of cake, he resolved to follow him, and to discover the cause of this strange procedure. He followed the way to a cataract at some distance from the spot where the shepherd had lost his child. The banks of the cataract were lined at the top, yet separated by an

abyss of immense depth, presented that appearance which so often astonishes and appals the travellers that frequent the Grampian mountains. Down one of those rugged, and almost perpendicular descents, the dog began, without hesitation, to make his way, and at last disappeared by entering into a cave, the mouth of which was almost level with the torrent. The shepherd with difficulty followed; but, on entering the cave what were his emotions, when he beheld his infant eating with much satisfaction the cake which the dog had just brought him; while the faithful animal stood by, eyeing his young charge with the utmost complacency! From the situation in which the child was found, it appeared that he had wandered to the brink of the precipice, and then either fallen or scrambled down till he reached the cave. The dog by means of his scent had traced him to the spot; and afterwards prevented him from starving, by giving up to him his own daily allowance. He appears never to have quitted the child by night or day, except when it was necessary to go for food; and then he was always seen running at full speed to and from the cottage.

Spiders the best Barometers.

In the commotions which took place in Holland, when the Stadtholder was reinstated by the Prussian arms, M. Quatremère d'Isjonval, a Frenchman, was arrested and imprisoned at Utrecht, where he spent upwards of seven years, deprived of his liberty. To amuse himself during this long confinement, he courted the acquaintance of spiders, studied their constitution and temperament, and, after a long series of accurate observations, he made the important discovery, that they were the most weather-wise of all creatures. Their *presentiment* of approaching changes is incomparably more refined and certain than the variations indicated by the best barometers, thermometers, or hygrometers. A weather-glass points out only the probable state of the weather for the next day; but with respect to a permanent or long-continued state of the atmosphere, this instrument cannot be relied upon. Spiders, however, have not only an obvious sensation of the approaching changes of the weather, similar to that manifested by a barometer, but they also indicate, with the greatest exactness, the more distant changes for a considerable length of time; nay, they foretell with precision, for a period of ten days or a fortnight, those states of the atmosphere which are of a settled nature. Of this M. d'Isjonval was enabled, in the end, to furnish a most striking proof.

On Wednesday, the 16th of January, 1795, the wind changed to the northward; on Thursday it began to freeze, and the frost increased to such a degree, that the French were enabled to enter Utrecht, and to release their imprisoned countryman, M. d'Isjonval: but on the 20th of January, an unexpected thaw

threatened to frustrate the design of the invaders, who had advanced with all their heavy artillery, accompanied by an army of one hundred thousand men, to pass the icy bridges which nature had apparently constructed for facilitating their hostile operations. The French generals were filled with apprehensions, and began to think of the necessity of retreating, when M. d'Isjonval having consulted his meteorological assistants—the spiders, went and told his countrymen that they had no cause for the least alarm, for that in a day or two the frost would return with greater intensity than had been known in Holland for ages. The prediction was fully verified. The very next day the frost recommenced, with almost unqualified severity; and Holland, no longer able to avail itself of its pent-up floods, became an easy prey to the revolutionizing republicans.

The manner in which spiders carry on their operations, conformably to the impending changes of the atmosphere, is simply this: If the weather is likely to become rainy, windy, or in other respects disagreeable, they fix the terminating filaments, on which the whole web is suspended, unusually short; and in this state they await the influence of a temperature which is remarkably variable. On the contrary, if the terminating filaments are made uncommonly long, we may, in proportion to their length, conclude that the weather will be serene, and continue so at least for ten or twelve days. But if the spiders be totally indolent, rain generally succeeds; though, on the other hand, their inactivity during rain is the most certain proof that it will be only of short duration, and followed with fair, and very constant weather. According to further observations, the spiders regularly make some alteration in their webs or nets every twenty-four hours: if these changes take place between the hours of six and seven in the evening, they indicate a clear and pleasant night.

Wager Queerly Lost.

In the year 1765, one Carr, a waterman, having laid a wager that he and his dog would both leap from the centre arch of Westminster bridge, and land at Lambeth within a minute of each other; he jumped off first, and the dog immediately followed; but not being in the secret, and fearing his master should be drowned, he laid hold of him by the neck and dragged him on shore, to the no small diversion of the spectators.

Concerts of Animals.

The abbot of Baigne, a man of wit, and skilled in the construction of new musical instruments, was ordered by Louis XI., King of France, more in jest than in earnest, to procure him a concert of swines' voices. The abbot said that the thing could doubtless be done, but that it would take a good deal of

money. The king ordered that he should have whatever he required for the purpose. The abbot, says Bayle, then 'wrought a thing as singular as ever was seen. For out of a great number of hogs of several ages which he got together, and placed under a tent, or pavilion, covered with velvet, before which he had a table of wood painted, with a certain number of keys, he made an organical instrument, and as he played upon the said keys with little spikes, which pricked the hogs, he made them cry in such order and consonance, he highly delighted the king and all his company.'

The French Encyclopedia, article *chant*, concisely narrates the history of a whimsical procession which was displayed at Brussels in 1549. A part of the show consisted of a car, in which was an organ played on by a bear. Instead of pipes, this instrument contained a collection of cats, each confined separately in a kind of narrow case, so that they could not move, but their tails were held upright, and attached to the jacks in such a manner, that when the bear touched the keys, he pulled the tails of the parties enclosed, and produced a most mellifluous mewing and wailing, in the C clef we suppose, treble, counter-tenor, and tenor; the organist himself, perhaps, being moved by the same machinery, utters a base accompaniment.

Some years ago there was exhibited at Paris, an instrument constructed on a similar principle. The number of performers was about a dozen; and by means of keys, we touched, their powers were exerted *con spirito et furiosa*, for the delight of their auditory. The happy arrangement of their tones had the most fascinating effect on the ear; and a *crescendo* was delightful! All the world—or what is exactly the same thing—all Paris, went to hear this wonderful multivocal organ; this uncommon combination of pipes. All Paris was *enchantée hors de raison*: and every beau and belle thought, talked, and dreamed of nothing but—of cat-harmony. Unhappily, a favourite singer at the opera was taken ill, and while labouring under a complaint in the lungs, a subscription for his support was proposed and countenanced by 'the fashion.' The cat-organist taking the hint, at the close of his concert, passing his hat round among his audience, 'announced with great sorrow that one of his most eminent performers was sorely afflicted with a catarrh, and stood in great need of an additional supply of meat to save his life. The joke was reported to the police: the police—as 'they manage these things better in France,'—thought no joke could equal a truth: so the wit was sent to prison, to ruminate on his witticism, and the current of Parisianism being turned ere he obtained his release, he found that the attractions of his vocal and instrumental organization had ceased, and that his cats could produce him no more than the value of their skins.

Travellers.

Innkeeper at Astley Chapel once sent, present by the carrier, to a friend at War-on, a dog and cat tied up in a bag, who been companions more than ten months. At time after, the dog and cat took their ture from Warrington together, and red to their old habitation, a distance of en miles. They jogged along the road y side, and on one occasion, the dog gal-defended his fellow-traveller from the e of another dog they met.

the summer of 1766, an officer of the having gone from Newcastle for Derby, recruiting party, took his dog with him; n leaving Derby, on the 16th of August, og was left behind. The creature miss-s master, set out for Newcastle, where ived on the 18th, being less than forty-urs in travelling an unknown way of one ed and eighty miles!

d'Obsonville had a dog which he had ht up in India from two months old; aving to go with a friend from Pondi-to Benglour, a distance of more than hundred leagues, he took the animal with him. 'Our journey,' says M. 'occupied nearly three weeks, and we raverse plains and mountains, and to rivers and go along bye-paths. The l, which had certainly never been in ountry before, lost us at Benglour, and iately returned to Pondicherry. He directly to the house of M. Beglier, ommandant of artillery, my frichd, and whom I had generally lived. Now the ty is not so much to know how the dog ted on the road for he was very strong, le to procure himself food', but how he t so well have found his way, after an il of more than a month! This was an of memory greatly superior to that the human race is capable of exerting.'

Watch Dog.

chief, who had broken into the shop of i, the Florentine artist, and was break-en the caskets, in order to come at ewels, was arrested in his progress by -against whom he found it a difficult to defend himself with a sword. The l animal ran to the room where the ymen slept, but as they did not seem r him barking, he drew away the bed-s, and pulling them alternately by the forcibly awaked them; then barking nd, he showed the way to the thieves, nt on before, but the men would not him, and at last locked their door. og having lost all hopes of the assis-of these men, undertook the task alone, n downstairs; he could not find the in the shop, but immediately rushing e street, came up with him, and tear-

ing off his cloak, would have treated him ac-ording to his deserts, if the fellow had not called to some tailors in the neighbourhood, and begged they would assist him against a mad dog; the tailors believing him, came to his assistance, and compelled the poor animal to retire.

Singular Interposition.

A lady had a tame bird which she was in the habit of letting out of its cage every day. One morning as it was picking crumbs of bread off the carpet, her cat, who always before showed great kindness for the bird, seized it on a sudden, and jumped with it in her mouth upon a table. The lady was much alarmed for the fate of her favourite, but on turning about instantly discerned the cause. The door had been left open, and a strange cat had just come into the room! After turning it out, her own cat came down from her place of safety, and dropped the bird without having done it the smallest injury.

Cruel Parting.

When Charles V. failed in his attempt on Al-giers in 1541, his fleet, and the troops which were embarked on board the ships, suffered the most dreadful hardships. The officers were obliged to throw overboard all their clothes, baggage, and valuables; but nothing distressed them so much as the parting with their horses, which were in general fine Spanish and Neapolitan genets and coursers, 'so well chosen,' says Brantome, 'so gallant spirited, and so high prized, that there was not a heart which could defend itself from feeling anguish and the deepest pity at seeing these fine horses struggling in vain to save themselves by swimming through the raging ocean. And the more distressful was the sight, as the poor animals despairing to reach the land, it being so far off, followed with their utmost powers, as long as their strength lasted, the ship and their masters, who stood on the decks, piteously lamenting the fate of these noble creatures, whom they saw perish before their eyes.'

Long Lost Found Again.

A female elephant belonging to a gentle-man at Calcutta, being ordered from the upper country to Chotygoné, broke loose from her keeper, and was lost in the woods. The excuses which the keeper made were not ad-mitted. It was supposed that he had sold the elephant; his wife and family therefore were sold for slaves, and he was himself condemned to work upon the roads. About twelve years after, this man was ordered into the country to assist in catching wild elephants. The keeper fancied he saw his long-lost elephant in a group that was before them. He was determined to go up to it; nor could the strongest representations of the danger dis-

suade him from his purpose. When he approached the creature, she knew him, and giving him three salutes, by waving her trunk in the air, knelt down and received him on her back. She afterwards assisted in securing the other elephants, and likewise brought with her three young ones, which she had produced during her absence. The keeper recovered his character; and, as a recompense for his sufferings and intrepidity, had an annuity settled on him for life. This elephant was afterwards in the possession of Governor Hastings.

Secret Escort.

A gentleman returning to town from Newington Green, where he had been on a visit to a friend, was stopped by a footpad armed with a thick bludgeon, who demanded his money, saying he was in great distress. The gentleman gave him a shilling; but this did not satisfy the fellow, who immediately attempted to strike him with his bludgeon; when, to the surprise of the gentleman, the villain's arm was suddenly arrested by a spaniel dog, who seized him fast. The fellow with some difficulty extricated himself from his enemy, and made his escape. The dog belonged to the gentleman's friend where he had dined, and had followed him unperceived; the faithful creature guarded him home, and then made the best of its way back to its master.

Friend in Need.

As a gentleman of the name of Irvine was walking across the Dee when it was frozen, the ice gave way in the middle of the river, and down he sunk, but kept himself from being carried away in the current by grasping his gun, which had fallen across the opening. A dog who attended him, after many fruitless attempts to rescue his master, ran to a neighbouring village, and took hold of the coat of the first person he met. The man was alarmed, and would have disengaged himself; but the dog regarded him with a look so kind and significant, and endeavoured to pull him along with so gentle a violence, that he began to think there might be something extraordinary in the case, and suffered himself to be conducted by the animal, who brought him to his master just in time to save his life.

Bee Charmer.

Mr. Wildman, of Plymouth, who rendered himself famous in the West of England for his command over bees, being in London in 1766, visited Dr. Templeman, Secretary to the Society of Arts, in his bee dress. He went in a chair, with his head and face covered with bees, and a most venerable beard of them hanging from his chin. The gentlemen and ladies assembled were soon convinced that they had no occasion to be afraid of the bees, and therefore went up familiarly to Mr.

Wildman, and conversed with him. After having remained some time, he gave orders to the bees to retire to their hive, and this they did instantly.

Tame Colony

Captain D. Carmichael, in a description of the Island of Tristan d'Acunha, communicated to the Linnæan Society, states that the animals found on this solitary spot were tame, that it was necessary to clear a path through the birds which were reposing on the rocks, by kicking them aside. One species of seal did not move at all when struck or pelted, and at length some of the company amused themselves by mounting them, and riding them into the sea!

Filial Duty.

Mr. Purdew, surgeon's mate on board the *Lancaster*, in 1757, relates that while lying one evening awake he saw a rat come into his berth, and after well surveying the place, retreat with the greatest caution and silence. Soon after it returned, leading by the ear another rat, which it left at a small distance from the hole which they entered. A third rat joined this kind conductor; they then foraged about, and picked up all the scraps of biscuit; these they carried to the second rat, which seemed blind, and remained in the spot where they had left it, nibbling such fare as its dutiful providers, whom Mr. Purdew supposes were its offspring, brought to it from the more remote parts of the floor.

Cunning as a Fox.

At a fox chase in Galloway, in the autumn of 1819, a very strong fox was closely pressed by the hounds; perceiving his danger, he made for a high wall at a short distance, and springing over, crept close under it on the other side; the hounds followed him, but sooner had they leaped the wall, than Reynard sprang back again over it; and having thus ingeniously given his pursuers the slip, got safely away.

An American gentleman, a Mr. Hawkins of Pittsfield, was in pursuit of foxes, accompanied by two bloodhounds; the dogs were soon in scent, and pursued a fox nearly two hours, when suddenly they appeared at a fall. Mr. H. came up with them near a large log lying upon the ground, and felt much surprised to find them taking a circuit of a few rods without an object, every trace of the game seeming to have been lost, while they kept still yelping. On looking about him, he discovered sly Reynard stretched upon the log, apparently lifeless. Mr. H. made several efforts to direct the attention of his dogs towards the fox, but failed; at length he approached so near the artful object of his pur-

to see him breathe. Even then no was exhibited; and Mr. H. seizing aimed a blow at him, which Reynard d by a leap from his singular lurking- having thus for a time effectually eluded pacious pursuers.

The Porcupine.

Authors before Buffon assert that the 'porcupine,' when irritated, darts its to a considerable distance against the, and that he will thus kill very large s. This Buffon thinks a mistake, as he repeatedly irritated the porcupine, without ing any other effect than that of some quills being shaken off. But Buffon's ients were made on the Italian porcu- an inferior species, with small and short s; and the evidence of subsequent, completely establishes that with respect Indian porcupine, the statement of the turalist is quite correct. A British who had served in India, in an account climate and diversions in the Northern of British India ('Philosophical Maga- vol. 42, p. 285), gives us the following it of an instance of the kind, of which s an eye-witness:—'Being one moon- night with a party in search of porcu- with dogs, we had not been long out ere scovered a hole inhabited by those peds. A dog was immediately put to ie animal had not gone in many paces he howled and retreated with several in his body. One in particular was an inch into his right leg. The porcu- n the approach of the dog, drew itself e shape of a ball, like a hedge-hog, and e forward with all its strength, threw its nto the dog.'

Dying of Joy.

of the strongest instances of affection is related in the 'Mémoires du Marquis lery.' 'The marquis had been two a the army, when returning home, a te dog which he had left came to im in the court-yard, and recognising if he had only been absent two days, upon his neck, and died of joy at found him again.'

Usurper Punished.

: years ago a sparrow had early in taken possession of an old swallow's a village in Fifeshire, and had laid ggs in it, when the original builder and of the castle made her appearance, and possession. The sparrow, firmly resisted the claim of the swallow; a ttle ensued, in which the swallow was oy its mate, and during the conflict by of their comrades. All the efforts of mbled swallows to dislodge the usurper owever, unsuccessful. Finding them-

selves completely foiled in this object, it would seem that they had held a council of war to consult on ulterior measures; and the resolu- tion they came to shows that with no ordinary degree of ingenuity some very lofty considera- tions of right and justice were combined in their deliberations. Since the sparrow could not be dispossessed of the nest, the next question with them appears to have been, how he could be otherwise punished for his unlaw- ful usurpation of a property unquestionably the legitimate right of its original constructor. The council were unanimous in thinking that nothing short of the death of the intruder could adequately atone for so heinous an offence; and having so decided, they proceeded to put their sentence into execution in the following very extraordinary manner. Quitting the scene of the contest for a time, they returned with accumulated numbers, each bearing a beak full of building materials; and without any further attempt to beat out the sparrow, they instantly set to work and built up the entrance into the nest, enclosing the sparrow within the clay tenement, and leaving her to perish in the garrison she had so bravely de- fended.

The truth of this almost incredible story is vouched for by a gentleman of unquestion- able veracity, and a most ingenious observer of nature, Mr. Gavin Inglis, of Strathendry, Bleachfield, in Fifeshire. Linnaeus had pre- pared us to expect as much from the ingenuity of the swallow, but he states nothing of the kind as of his own knowledge.

A Good Finder.

One day, when Dumont, a tradesman of the Rue St. Denis, was walking in the Boul- vard St. Antoine with a friend, he offered to lay a wager with the latter, that if he were to hide a six livre piece in the dust, his dog would discover and bring it to him. The wager was accepted, and the piece of money secreted, after being carefully marked. When the two had proceeded some distance from the spot, M. Dumont called to his dog that he had lost something, and ordered him to seek it. Caniche immediately turned back, and his master and his companion pursued their walk to the Rue St. Denis. Meanwhile a traveller, who happened to be just then re- turning in a small chaise from Vincennes, per- ceived the piece of money which his horse had kicked from its hiding-place; he alighted, took it up, and drove to his inn, in the Rue Pont-aux-Choux. Caniche had just reached the spot in search of the lost piece, when the stranger picked it up. He followed the chaise, went into the inn, and stuck close to the traveller. Having scented out the coin which he had been ordered to bring back in the pocket of the latter, he leaped up incessantly at and about him. The traveller supposing him to be some dog that had lost or been left behind by his master, regarded his different movements as marks of fondness; and as the animal was handsome, he determined to keep

him. He gave him a good supper, and on retiring to bed, took him with him to his chamber. No sooner had he pulled off his breeches, than they were seized by the dog; the owner, conceiving that he wanted to play with them, took them away again. The animal began to bark at the door, which the traveller opened, under the idea that the dog wanted to go out. Caniche snatched up the breeches and away he flew. The traveller posted after him with his nightcap on, and literally *sans culottes*. Anxiety for the fate of a purse full of gold Napoleons, of forty francs each, which was in one of the pockets, gave redoubled velocity to his steps. Caniche ran full speed to his master's house, where the stranger arrived a moment afterwards, breathless and enraged. He accused the dog of robbing him. 'Sir,' said the master, 'my dog is a very faithful creature; and if he has run away with your breeches, it is because you have in them money which does not belong to you.' The traveller became still more exasperated. 'Compose yourself, sir,' rejoined the other, smiling, 'without doubt there is in your purse a six livre piece, with such and such marks, which you have picked up in the Boulevard St. Antoine, and which I threw down there with the firm conviction that my dog would bring it back again. This is the cause of the robbery which he has committed upon you.' The stranger's rage now yielded to astonishment; he delivered the six livre piece to the owner, and could not forbear caressing the dog which had given him so much uneasiness, and such an unpleasant chase.

Minstrel's Bark.

Seals have a very delicate sense of hearing, and are much delighted with music. The fact was not unknown to the ancient poets, and is thus alluded to by Walter Scott:

'Rude Heiskar's seals, through surges dark,
Will long pursue the minstrel's bark.'

* Mr. John Laing, in his account of a voyage to Spitzbergen, mentions, that the captain of the ship's son, who was fond of playing on the violin, never failed to have a numerous auditory when in the seas frequented by these animals; and Mr. L. has seen them follow the ship for miles when any person was playing on deck.

Feeding the Orphan.

In June, 1816, some young gentlemen disappointed in duck shooting, fired a few rounds for their amusement at a flock of swallows, and unfortunately brought some of the parent swallows to the ground, and among the rest, both parents of a young brood of five, whose nest was in the corner of one of the windows of Mr. Gavin Inglis's house, at Strathendry. Conceiving the young would perish from hunger, Mr. I. resolved to take them into the

house, and try to bring them up under the care of his children, who had undertaken to catch flies for them. This humane intervention was however found unnecessary; the news of the calamity had spread over the colony, and a collection of parent-swallows had assembled. The state of the nest and the young was taken under review, and arrangements were immediately gone into for the protection and support of the helpless orphans. A supply of provisions was brought them before leaving them for the night; and the next day, and every day for some time after, the benevolent office of feeding them was carried on with so much parental care by the other swallows in succession, that the orphan group were as regularly fed, and as soon fledged as on the wing, as the young of any nest in the whole colony.

A Sly Couple.

A gentleman in the county of Stirling kept a greyhound and a pointer, and being fond of coursing, the pointer was accustomed to find the hares, and the greyhound to catch them. When the season was over, it was found that the dogs were in the habit of going out by themselves, and killing hares for their own amusement. To prevent this, a large iron ring was fastened to the pointer's neck by a leather collar, and hung down so as to prevent the dog from running, or jumping over dikes, &c. The animals, however, continued to stroll out to the fields together; and one day the gentleman suspecting that all was not right, resolved to watch them, and to his surprise, found that the moment when the greyhound took up the iron ring in his mouth, and carrying it, they set off to the hills, and began to search for hares as usual. They were followed, and it was observed, that whenever the pointer scented the hare, the ring was dropped, and the greyhound stood ready to pounce upon poor puss the moment the other drove her from her form, but that he uniformly returned to assist his companion after he had caught his prey.

The Indicator.

The Hottentots in Southern Africa are remarkable for their skill in observing the bees, as they fly to their nests, but they have still a much better guide than their own acuteness, on which they invariably rely. This is a small brownish bird, nothing remarkable in its appearance, of the cuckoo genus, to which naturalists have given the specific name of the *Indicator*, from its pointing out and discovering, by a chirping and whistling noise, the nests of bees; it is called by the farmers the honey-bird.

In the conduct of this little animal there is something that looks very like what philosophers have been pleased to deny the brute creation. Having observed a nest of honey, it flies in search of some human creature, to

by its fluttering, whistling, and chirp-communicates the discovery. Every ant is too well acquainted with the have any doubts as to the certainty of orination. It leads the way directly to ce, flying from bush to bush, or from at-hill to another. When close to the remains still and silent. As soon as son to whom the discovery is made on away the honey, the Indicator flies t on the remains. By the like conduct o said to indicate with equal certainty us of lions, tigers, and hyænas, and easts of prey, and noxious animals. In overy of a bee's nest, self-interest is ed; but in the latter instance its s must proceed from a different prin-

Sense of Ridicule.

ons who have the management of ele- have often observed that they know ell when any one is ridiculing them, t they very often revenge themselves hey have an opportunity. A painter to draw an elephant in the menagerie in an extraordinary attitude, which h his trunk lifted up, and his mouth An attendant on the painter, to make ohant preserve the position, threw i his mouth, and often pretended to hem without doing so. The animal irritated, and as if knowing that the was to blame rather than his servant, to him, and dashed a quantity of rom his trunk over the paper on he painter was sketching his distorted

Maternal Affection.

the *Carcass*, one of the ships in Phipps' voyage of discovery to the pole, was locked in the ice, early on the man at the mast-head gave hat three bears were making their y fast over the frozen ocean, and were t their course towards the ship. They doubt been invited by the scent of abber of a sea-horse, which the crew ed a few days before, which had been re, and was burning on the ice at the heir approach. They proved to be a r and her two cubs; but the cubs arly as large as the dam. They ran to the fire, and drew out from the art of the flesh of the sea-horse that d unconsumed, and eat it voraciously. v of the ship threw great lumps of the he sea-horse which they had still left, e ice, which the old bear fetched ugly, laying every lump before the he brought it, and dividing it, gave rare, reserving but a small portion to As she was fetching away the last ey levelled their muskets at the cubs, them both dead, and in her retreat inded the dam, but not mortally. It

would have drawn tears of pity from any but the most unfeeling, to have marked the affectionate concern expressed by this poor animal in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though she was sorely wounded, and could but just crawl to the place where they lay, she carried the lump of flesh she had just fetched away, as she had done the others, tore it in pieces, and laid it down before them; when she saw that they refused to eat, she laid her paws first upon one, then upon the other, and endeavoured to raise them up, making at the same time, the most pitiable moans. Finding she could not stir them, she went off, and when she had got at some distance, looked back and moaned; and that not availing to entice them away, she returned, and smelling round them, began to lick their wounds. She went off a second time, as before, and having crawled a few paces, looked again behind her, and for some time stood moaning. But still her cubs not rising to follow her, she returned to them anew, and with signs of inexpressible fondness went round them, pawing them successively. Finding at last that they were cold and lifeless, she raised her head towards the ship, and growled a curse upon the destroyers, which they returned with a volley of musket balls. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their wounds.

Tame Sea-gull.

Many years ago, a Mr. Scot, of Benholm, near Montrose, had accidentally caught a sea-gull, whose wings he cut, and put it into his garden. The bird remained in that situation for several years, and being kindly treated, became so familiar, as to come at call to be fed at the kitchen door. It was known by the name of Willie. This bird became at last so tame that no pains were taken to preserve it, and its wings having grown to full length, it flew away, joined the other gulls on the beach, and came back, from time to time, to pay a visit to the house. When its companions left the country at the usual season, Willie accompanied them, much to the regret of the family. To their great joy, however, it returned next season; and with its usual familiarity came to its old haunt, where it was welcomed and fed very liberally. In this way it went and returned for *forty years*, without intermission, and kept up its acquaintance in the most cordial manner; for while in the country it visited them almost daily, answered to its name like any domestic animal, and eat almost out of the hand. One year, however, very near the period of its final disappearance, Willie did not pay his respects to the family for eight or ten days after the general flock of gulls were upon the coast, and great was the lamentation for his loss, as it was feared he was dead: but to the surprise and joy of the family, a servant one morning came running into the breakfast-room in ecstasy, announcing that Willie was returned. The whole company rose from the table to welcome Willie. Food was soon supplied in

abundance, and Willie with his usual frankness eat of it heartily, and was as tame as any barn-yard fowl about the house. In a year or two afterwards this grateful bird discontinued his visits for ever.

Effect of Colours.

Mr. Forbes, the author of the 'Oriental Memoirs,' when at Dazagan in Concan, kept a cameleon for several weeks. The animal was singularly affected by anything black. The skirting-board of the room was black, and the creature carefully avoided it; but if by chance he came near it, or if a black hat were placed in his way, he shrunk and became black as jet. It was evident by the care he took to avoid those objects which occasioned this change, that the effort was painful to him; the colour seemed to operate like a poison. From some antipathy of the same sort, the buffalo and the bull are enraged by scarlet, which, according to the blind man's notion, acts upon them like the sound of a trumpet; and the viper is most provoked to bite when the viper-catcher presents it with a red rag. There are other animals to whom certain colours have the effect of fascination. Daffodils, or any bright yellow flowers, will decoy perch into a draw-net. Persons who wear black hats in summer are ten times more annoyed by flies than those who wear white ones. Such facts are highly curious, and well deserving of investigation. We know as yet but little of the manner in which animals are affected by colours, and that little is only known popularly. When more observations of this kind have been made and classified, they may lead to some consequences of practical utility.

Carrier Pigeons.

The first mention we find made of the employment of pigeons as letter carriers is by Ovid, in his 'Metamorphoses,' who tells us that Taurosthenes, by a pigeon stained with purple, gave notice of his having been victor at the Olympic games on the very same day to his father at Ægina.

Pliny informs us that during the siege of Modena by Marc Antony, pigeons were employed by Brutus to keep up a correspondence with the besieged.

When the city of Ptolemais, in Syria, was invested by the French and Venetians, and it was ready to fall into their hands, they observed a pigeon flying over them, and immediately conjectured that it was charged with letters to the garrison. On this, the whole army raising a loud shout, so confounded the poor aerial post that it fell to the ground, and on being seized, a letter was found under its wings, from the sultan, in which he assured the garrison that 'he would be with them in three days, with an army sufficient to raise the siege.' For this letter the besiegers substituted another to this purpose, 'that the garrison must see to their own safety, for the

sultan had such other affairs pressing him that it was impossible for him to come to their succour;' and with this false intelligence the garrison, deprived by this decree of all hope of relief, immediately surrendered. The sultan appeared on the third day, as promised with a powerful army, and was not a little mortified to find the city already in the hands of the Christians.

Carrier pigeons were again employed, with better success, at the siege of Leyden in 1675. The garrison were, by means of the information thus conveyed to them, induced to stand out, till the enemy, despairing of reducing the place, withdrew. On the siege being raised, the Prince of Orange ordered that the pigeons who had rendered such essential service should be maintained at public expense, and that at their death they should be embalmed and preserved in a town house, as a perpetual token of gratitude.

In the East the employment of pigeons for the conveyance of letters is still very common; particularly in Syria, Arabia, and Egypt. Every bashaw has generally a basket full of them sent him from the gran seraglio, where they are bred, and in case of any insurrection, or other emergency, he is enabled, by letting loose two or more of these extraordinary messengers, to convey intelligence to the government long before it could be possibly obtained by other means.

In Flanders great encouragement is still given to the training of pigeons; and at Antwerp there is an annual competition of the society of pigeon fanciers.

In the United States they have been also recently employed, with very nefarious success, by a set of lottery gamblers. The numbers of the tickets drawn at Philadelphia were known by this mode of conveyance within an inconceivably short a period at New York, if drawn at New York, known at Philadelphia, and so with other towns, that the greatest frauds were committed on the public, and those in possession of this secret means of intelligence.

In England the use of carrier pigeons is present wholly confined to the *gentlemen of the fancy*, who inherited it from the heroes of Tyburn, with whom it was of old a favourite practice to let loose a number of pigeons at the moment the fatal cart was drawn away to notify to distant friends the departure of the unhappy criminal.

The diligence and speed with which the feathered messengers wing their course is extraordinary. From the instant of their liberation their flight is directed through the clouds at an immense height to the place of their destination. They are believed to dart forwards in a straight line, and never descend except when at a loss for breath, and then to be seen, commonly at dawn of day, lying on their backs on the ground, with their beaks open, sucking in with hasty avidity the dew of the morning. Of their speed, the instances related are almost incredible.

The Consul of Alexandria daily sends

ches by this means to Aleppo in five though couriers occupy the whole day feeding with the utmost expedition from vn to the other.

Years ago a gentleman sent a carrier from London, by the stage coach, to bid at Bury St. Edmund's, together with desiring that the pigeon, two days' arrival there, might be thrown up when the town clock struck nine in evening. This was done accordingly, a pigeon arrived in London, and flew Bull Inn, in Bishopsgate Street, into , and was there shown at half an hour ven o'clock, having flown seventy-two two hours and a half. At the annual tion of the Antwerp pigeon fanciers, one of thirty-two pigeons belonging city, who had been conveyed to London there let loose, made the transit ing a distance in a direct line of one l and eighty miles, in six hours!

through the attachment of these to the place of their birth, and par- to the spot where they have brought young, that they are thus rendered o mankind.

a young one flies very hard at home, come to its full strength, it is carried in : or otherwise about half a mile from nd there turned out; after this, it is a mile, then two, four, eight, ten, &c., till at length it will return from iermost parts of the country.

Indian Grossbeak.

Bayas, or Grossbeak, so very common ostan, is rather larger than a sparrow. says Sir William Jones, 'astonishingly faithful, and docile, never voluntarily g the place where its young were , but not averse, like most other the society of mankind, and easily o perch on the hand of its master. It taught with ease to fetch a piece of r any small thing that its master it; and it is an attested fact that r be dropped into a deep well, and be instantaneously given, it will fly ith amazing celerity, catch the ring touches the water, and bring it up to er with apparent exultation. It is fidently asserted that if a house or r place be shown to it one or twice, rry a note thither immediately on the gnal being made.'

instance of its docility, Sir William as an eye-witness of. The young omen, at Benares and other places, ry thin plates of gold, called *ticas*, fixed, by way of ornament, between brows; and when they pass through ts, it is not uncommon for the youth-ines, who amuse themselves with Bayas, to give them a signal, which erstand, and send them to pluck the gold from the foreheads of their s, which they bring in triumph to rs.

The Pig Pointer.

The race of swine, though generally so stupid as to have furnished an odious cant appellation for the multitude of our own species, is by no means destitute of sagacity; but the shortness of life to which we generally doom them, unfortunately precludes all improvement in this respect. In proof of their intellectual endowments, it might be sufficient to recite the numerous instances of *learned pigs* with which the exhibitions of every country fair are familiar; but an instance more truly surprising than these, was that of the black New Forest sow, which was broke in by Tumor, the gamekeeper to Sir H. St. John Mildmay, to find game, back, and stand nearly as well as a pointer.

This sow, which was a thin, long-legged animal (one of the ugliest of the New Forest breed), when very young, conceived so great a partiality to some pointer puppies that Tumor was breaking, that it played, and often came to feed with them. From this circumstance it occurred to Tumor (to use his own expression) that, having broke many a dog as obstinate as a pig, he would try if he could not also succeed in breaking a pig. The little animal would often go out with the puppies to some distance from home; and he enticed it farther by a sort of pudding made of barley-mal, which he carried in one of his pockets. The other he filled with stones, which he threw at the pig whenever she misbehaved, as he was not able to catch and correct her in the same manner he did his dogs. He informed Sir Henry Mildmay, that he found the animal tractable, and that he soon taught her what he wished by this mode of reward and punishment. Sir Henry Mildmay says, that he has frequently seen her out with Tumor, when she quartered her ground as regularly as any pointer, stood when she came on game (having an excellent nose), and backed other dogs as well as he ever saw a pointer. When she came on the cold scent of game, she slackened her trot, and gradually dropped her ears and tail, till she was certain, and then fell down on her knees. So staunch was she, that she would frequently remain five minutes and upwards on her point. As soon as the game rose, she always returned to Tumor, grunting very loudly for her reward of pudding, if it was not immediately given to her.

When Tumor died, his widow sent the pig to Sir Henry Mildmay, who kept it for three years, but never used it, except for the purpose of occasionally amusing his friends. In doing this, a fowl was put into a cabbage-net, and hidden amongst the fern in some part of the park, and the extraordinary animal never failed to point it, in the manner above described.

Filial Tenderness and Address.

A cat belonging to Mr. Stevens, of the Red Lion Hotel in Truro, during the period of her gestation was conveyed to a barn, near the

turnpike-gate, on the Michell road. The time of her accouchement being arrived, puss became the mother of four fine sprawling kittens ! To her unspeakable grief, three of her young ones suffered a watery death the next morning, without ever opening their eyes on this sorrowful world. The authors of this melancholy catastrophe, on going to the barn on the following day, found no traces either of the mother or her remaining young one. They called, but all was silent ; they searched, but tabby was invisible. Here the matter rested for several days, when at length, early in the morning, puss made her appearance in the court of her master's house in a very slender condition. Having satisfied her hunger, and loitered about the house during the day, late at night she took her leave, carrying with her all the provisions which she conveniently could. For several days she repeated the same course of operations, regularly returning to the hotel in the morning, and leaving it not empty-mouthed at night. Her proceedings having excited attention, she was followed in one of her nocturnal retreats, not to the barn from which two of her young ones had been so cruelly taken to be drowned, but to the top of a wheaten mowhay, at some distance. On beating up her quarters there, she was discovered feeding her surviving kitten, which had by this time become plump and sleek, but was as wild as a young tiger, and would not be touched by any one. The hole which the mother-cat had made in the mowhay, to afford a passage and retreat to her young one, was peculiarly curious.

A few days afterwards the mother finding, perhaps, that her own daily journeys were too fatiguing ; or thinking it necessary that her young one should be introduced to the world, in order to rub off the rust of its clownish education ; or what is as likely, feeling assured that the kitten had attained an age which would save it from sharing the fate of its departed relatives, she took advantage of a dark and silent night, when worrying dogs and boys were within doors, to convey it to Truro, where we need not say grimalkin and the young stranger found a hospitable welcome.

Infant Fascination.

The *Reading Eagle*, a Pennsylvania paper of the year 1820, relates the following extraordinary incident :—A daughter of Mr. Daniel Strohecker, near Orwigsburgh, Berks, county Pennsylvania, about three years of age, was observed for a number of days to go to a considerable distance from the house with a piece of bread which she obtained from her mother. The circumstance attracted the attention of the mother, who desired Mr. S. to follow the child, and observe what she did with it. On coming to the child, he found her engaged in feeding several snakes, called yellow heads, or bastard rattlesnakes. He immediately took it away, and proceeded to the house for his gun, and returning, killed two of them at one shot, and another a few

days after. The child called these reptiles in the manner of calling chickens ; and when his father observed, if it continued the practice they would bite her, she child replied, 'No, father, they wont bite me ; they only eat the bread I give them.'

A large and ferocious mastiff which broke his chain, ran along the road near Bath to the great terror and consternation of those whom he passed ; when suddenly running by a most interesting boy, the child struck him with a stick, upon which the dog turned furiously on his infant assailant. The little fellow, so far from being intimidated, ran up to him, and flung his arms round the neck of the enraged animal, which became instantly appeased, and in return, caressed the child.

Domesticated Seal.

A gentleman in the neighbourhood of Burntisland, in Fifeshire, has completely succeeded in taming a seal. It appears to possess all the sagacity of the dog, lives in his master's house, and eats from his hand. He usually takes it with him in his fishing excursions, upon which occasion it affords no small entertainment. When thrown into the water, it will follow for miles the track of the boat, and although thrust back by the oars, it never relinquishes its purpose. Indeed, it struggles so hard to regain its seat, that one would imagine its fondness for its master had entirely overcome the natural predilection for its native element.

The Vampyre.

Captain Steadman in his 'Narrative of a Five Years' Expedition against the revolting Negroes of Surinam,' relates, that on waking about four o'clock one morning in his hammock, he was extremely alarmed at finding himself weltering in congealed blood, and without feeling any pain whatever. 'The mystery was,' continues Captain S. 'that I had been bitten by the *Vampyre* or *Spectre* of Guiana, which is also called the *Flying Devil* of New Spain, and by the Spaniards, *Perru-volador*. This is no other than a bat of monstrous size, that sucks the blood from men and cattle while they are fast asleep, even sometimes till they die ; and as the manner in which they proceed is truly wonderful, I shall endeavour to give a distinct account of it. Knowing, by instinct, that the person they intend to attack is in a sound slumber, they generally alight near the feet, where, while the creature continues fanning with his enormous wings, which keeps one cool, he bites a piece out of the tip of the great toe, so very small indeed, that the head of a pin could scarcely be received into the wound, which consequently not painful ; yet through this orifice he continues to suck the blood, until he is obliged to disgorge. He then begins again, and thus continues sucking and d

until he is scarcely able to fly; and ferer has often been known to sleep me to eternity. Cattle they generally the ear, but always in places where od flows spontaneously. Having apbacco ashes as the best remedy, and the gore from myself and hammoek, ed several small heaps of congealed round the place where I had lain e ground; on examining which, the judged that I had lost at least twelve en ounces during the night.'

Retribution.

park of Lord Grantley at Wonersh, ildford, a fawn, drinking, was suddenly upon by one of the swans, which he animal into the water, and held it until quite drowned. The atrocious as observed by the other deer in the id did not long go unrevenged; for after this very swan, which had never been molested by the deer, gled out when on land, and furiously l by a herd, which surrounded and y killed the offender.

Strange Rooks.

e year 1783, a pair of strange rooks, unsuccessful attempt to effect a lodg-a rookery at a little distance from the ge in Newcastle, were compelled to the attempt, and to take refuge on of that building; and although com-molested by other rooks, they built st on the top of the vane, and there brood of young ones, undisturbed by e of the populace below them. The l its inmates were of course turned / every change of the wind. Every y continued to build their nest in the ace, till the year 1793, soon after e spire was taken down. A small g was made, of the size of a watch -presenting the top of the spire and e's nest; a great many copies of it d, and some are still to be met with he inhabitants of Newcastle.

Cat and Crows.

spring of 1791, a pair of crows made t in a tree, of which there were several round the garden of a gentleman, his morning walks, was often amused ssing furious combats between the nd a cat. One morning the battle ore fiercely than usual, till at last the way, and took shelter under a hedge, wait a more favourable opportunity of g into the house. The crows con-r a short time to make a threatening it perceiving that on the ground they nothing more than threaten, one of ed a stone from the middle of the and perched with it on a tree planted

in the hedge, where she sat, watching the motions of the enemy of her young. As the cat crept along under the hedge, the crow accompanied her, flying from branch to branch, and from tree to tree; and when at last puss ventured to quit her hidingplace, the crow, leaving the trees and hovering over her in the air, let the stone drop from on high on her back.

Another instance of the sagacity of the crow, is related by Dr. Darwin. A friend of his on the northern coast of Ireland, saw above a hundred crows at once preying upon mussels: each crow took a mussel up into the air thirty or forty yards high, and then let it fall upon the stones, and thus by breaking the shell, got possession of the animal.

Revengeful Swallow.

A gentleman of Brenehley having shot a hen-swallow which was skimming in the air, accompanied by her mate, the enraged partner immediately flew at the fowler, and, as if to revenge the loss it had sustained, struck him in the face with its wing, and continued flying around him with every appearance of determined anger. For several weeks after the fatal shot, the bird continued to annoy the gentleman whenever it met with him, except on Sundays, when it did not recognise him, in consequence of his change of dress.

Heroism of the Hen.

In June, 1820, a contest of rather an unusual nature took place in the house of Mr. Collins, a respectable innkeeper, at Naul in Ireland. The parties concerned were, a hen of the game species, and a rat of the middle size. The hen, in an accidental perambulation round a spacious room, accompanied by an only chicken, the sole surviving offspring of a numerous brood, was roused to madness by an unprovoked attack made by a voracious cowardly rat, on her unsuspecting chirping companion. The shrieks of the beloved captive, while dragging away by the enemy, excited every maternal feeling in the affectionate bosom of the feathered dame; she flew at the corner whence the alarm arose, seized the lurking enemy by the neck, writhed him about the room, put out one of his eyes in the engagement, and so fatigued her opponent by repeated attacks of spur and bill, that in the space of twelve minutes, during which time the conflict lasted, she put a final period to the nocturnal invader's existence; nimbly turned round, in wild but triumphant distraction, to her palpitating nestling, and hugged it in her victorious bosom.

Singular Foster-mother.

At Dunrobin Castle, in Sutherlandshire, the seat of the Marquess of Stafford, there was, in May, 1820, to be seen, a terrier bitch nursing a brood of ducklings. She had had a litter of whelps a few weeks before, which

were taken from her and drowned. The unfortunate mother was quite disconsolate, till she perceived the brood of ducklings, which she immediately seized and carried to her lair, where she retained them, following them out and in with the greatest care, and nursing them after her own fashion, with the most affectionate anxiety. When the ducklings, following their natural instinct, went into the water, their foster-mother exhibited the utmost alarm; and as soon as they returned to land, she snatched them up in her mouth, and ran home with them. What adds to the singularity of this circumstance is, that the same animal, when deprived of a litter of puppies the year preceding, seized two cock-chickens, which she reared with the like care she bestows upon her present family. When the young cocks began to try their voices, their foster-mother was as much annoyed as she now seems to be by the swimming of the ducklings—and never failed to repress their attempts at crowing.

Matrimonial Fidelity.

A pigeon, twelve years old, belonging to an inn-keeper at Cheltenham, was a few years ago deserted by his partner, after having had a numerous progeny by her. He took the loss much to heart, but made no attempt to supply her place by a new alliance. Two years passed away in a state of widowed solitude, when at last the faithless fair one returned, and wished to be restored to all her conjugal rights. Her injured lord and master was for a time inexorable; he repelled all her approaches, and when she became importunate, gave her a sound beating. In the dead of night, however, Master Pigeon's curtains not being more secure than those of Priam, the lady contrived to make her quarters good. When the day dawned, matters were so far made up, that it was agreed Madam Dove should at least have shelter in his cot during the remainder of her days; but the days of the repentant guilty are seldom long, and a few short months saw her consigned to the tomb. The old pigeon, as if sensible that death, by for ever dissolving the connexion, had placed him in a state of liberty which her voluntary desertion had not, instantly took wing, and in an hour or two returned with a new partner!

Disinterested Informer.

A lady walking over Lansdown, near Bath, was overtaken by a large dog, which had left two men who were travelling the same road with a horse and cart, and followed by the animal for some distance, the creature endeavouring to make her sensible of something, by looking in her face, and then pointing with his nose behind. Failing in his object, he next placed himself so completely in front of the object of his solicitude, as to prevent her proceeding any farther, still looking steadfastly in her face. The lady became rather

alarmed; but judging from the manner of the dog, who did not appear vicious, that it was something about her which engaged his attention, she examined her dress, and found that her lace shawl was gone. The dog, perceiving that he was at length understood, immediately turned back; the lady followed him, and he conducted her to the spot where her shawl lay, some distance back in the road. On her taking it up, and replacing it on her person, the interesting quadruped instantly ran off at full speed after his master, apparently much delighted.

The Shepherd's Dog.

The celebrated shepherd poet, to whom these ANECDOTES OF INSTINCT are inscribed, had a dog named Sirrah, who was for many years his sole companion in those mountain solitudes, where, far from the haunts of men, he nursed that imagination which has burst forth with such splendour on the words, 'He was,' quoth the shepherd, 'beyond comparison, the best dog I ever saw. He was of a surly, unsocial temper, disdainful of flattery, and refused to be caressed; but attention to his master's commands and interests, will never again be equalled by any of the canine race. The first time that I saw him, a drover was leading him in a rope; he was hungry and lean, and far from being a beautiful cur, for he was almost all over black and had a grim face, striped with white and brown. The man had bought him of a drover for three shillings somewhere on the border, and doubtless had fed him very ill on his journey. I thought I discovered a sort of sullen intelligence in his face, notwithstanding his dejected and forlorn situation; I gave the drover a guinea for him, and appropriated the captive to myself. I believe that he never was a guinea so well laid out; at least I am satisfied that I never laid out one to so good a purpose. He was scarcely then a year old, and knew so little of herding, that he never turned a sheep in his life; but as soon as he discovered that it was his duty to do so, and that it obliged me, I can never forget with what anxiety and eagerness he learned his different evolutions. He would try every way deliberately till he found out what I wanted him to do; and when once I made to understand a direction, he never forgot it, and mistook it again. Well as I knew him, I often astonished me, for when hard pressed in accomplishing the task he was put to, he had expedients of the moment that bespoke a great share of the reasoning faculty.'

Mr. Hogg goes on to narrate the following among other remarkable exploits, in illustration of Sirrah's sagacity. About seven hundred lambs, which were at once under his care at weaning time, broke up at midnight and scampered off in three divisions across the hills, in spite of all that the shepherd and an assistant lad could do to keep them together. 'Sirrah,' cried the shepherd in great affliction, 'my man, they're a' awa.' The night was

at he did not see Sirrah ; but the faith-
 nal had heard his master's words—
 uch as of all others were sure to set him
 the alert ; and without more ado he
 set off in quest of the recreant flock.
 hile the shepherd and his companion
 fail to do all that was in their power
 ver their lost charge ; they spent the
 ight in scouring the hills for miles
 but of neither the lambs nor Sirrah
 hey obtain the slightest trace. 'It
 e most extraordinary circumstance,'
 e shepherd, 'that had ever occurred in
 als of the pastoral life. We had noth-
 (day having dawned), but to return
 master, and inform him that we
 his whole flock of lambs, and knew
 it was become of one of them. On
 y home, however, we discovered
 lambs at the bottom of a deep ravine,
 ne Flesh Cleuch, and the indefatigable
 tanding in front of them, looking all
 for some relief, but still standing true
 charge. The sun was then up ; and
 e first came in view of them, we con-
 that it was one of the divisions of the
 hich Sirrah had been unable to manage
 came to that commanding situation.
 at was our astonishment, when we dis-
 by degrees that not one lamb of
 le flock was wanting ! How he had
 he divisions collected in the dark, is
 my comprehension. The charge was
 rely to himself, from midnight until
 g of the sun ; and if all the shepherds in
 st had been there to have assisted him,
 uld not have effected it with greater
 y. All that I can further say is, that
 felt so grateful to any creature below
 as I did to my honest Sirrah that

Sybarite Horses.

ance of animals, as we have already
 is not unknown to antiquity ; dogs,
 pes, elephants, &c., were admitted
corps de ballet ; but horses exceeded
 est in the *gracefulness* of their steps
 docility of their tempers. Pliny in-
 that the Sybarites, whom we have
 d in this, if in nothing else, were the
 associated this tractable quadruped
 ball. The passion of this people for
 nt, however, proved fatal to them on
 asion, for the Crotonitæ having in-
 their trumpeters to sound the usual
 a pitched battle between the armies
 two nations, the horses of the latter
 ancing, instead of advancing to the
 and were with their riders cut in

Mimic.

Carbasson brought up an ourang-
 which became so fond of him that,
 he went, it was always desirous of
 ying him. Whenever therefore he

had to perform the service of his church, he
 was under the necessity of shutting it up in
 his room. Once, however, the animal escaped,
 and followed the father to the church ; where
 silently mounting the sounding board above
 the pulpit, he lay perfectly still till the sermon
 commenced. He then crept to the edge, and
 overlooking the preacher, imitated all his
 gestures in so grotesque a manner, that the
 whole congregation were unavoidably urged
 to laugh. The father, surprised and con-
 founded at this ill-timed levity, severely re-
 buked his audience for their inattention. The
 reproof failed in its effect ; the congregation
 still laughed, and the preacher in the warmth
 of his zeal redoubled his vociferation and his
 action ; these the ape imitated so exactly that
 the congregation could no longer restrain
 themselves, but burst out into a loud and con-
 tinued laughter. A friend of the preacher at
 length stepped up to him, and pointed out the
 cause of this improper conduct ; and such was
 the arch demeanour of the animal that it was
 with the utmost difficulty he could himself
 command his gravity, while he ordered the
 servants of the church to take him away.

Conversing Parrot.

Mr. Locke, in his 'Essay on the Human
 Understanding,' quotes the following anec-
 dote of a parrot from the 'Remains of what
 passed in Christendom from 1672 to 1679,' in
 a manner which shows that, however incre-
 dible, he at least believed in it. During the
 government of Prince Maurice in Brazil, he
 had heard of an old parrot that was much
 celebrated for answering like a rational cre-
 ature many of the common questions put to it.
 It was at a great distance ; but so much had
 been said about it that the prince's curiosity
 was roused, and he directed it to be sent for.
 When it was introduced into the room where
 the prince was sitting, in company with several
 Dutchmen, it immediately exclaimed in the
 Brazilian language, 'What a company of
 white men are here !' They asked it, 'Who
 is that man ?' (pointing to the prince). The
 parrot answered, 'Some general or other.'
 When the attendants carried it up to him, he
 asked it, through the medium of an inter-
 preter (for he was ignorant of its language),
 'Whence do you come ?' The parrot answered,
 'From Marignan.' The prince asked, 'To
 whom do you belong ?' It answered, 'To a
 Portuguese.' He asked again, 'What do you
 there ?' It answered, 'I look after chickens.'
 The prince laughing, exclaimed, 'You look
 after chickens !' The parrot in answer said,
 'Yes, I ; and I know well enough how to do
 it ;' clucking at the same time in imitation of
 the noise made by the hen to call together her
 young.

The author of the memoirs in which this
 account is contained, says that he had it
 directly from Prince Maurice, who observed,
 that though the parrot spoke in a language he
 did not understand, yet he could not be de-
 ceived, for he had in the room both a Dutch

man who spoke Brazilian, and a Brazilian who spoke Dutch; that he asked them separately and privately, and both agreed exactly in their account of the parrot's discourse.

Colonel O'Kelly's Parrot.

In the London newspapers for October, 1802, there was the following announcement:—'A few days ago died, in Half Moon Street, Piccadilly, the celebrated parrot of Colonel O'Kelly. This singular bird sang a number of songs in perfect time and tune. She could express her wants articulately, and give her orders in a manner nearly approaching to rationality. Her age was not known; it was, however, more than thirty years, for previously to that period Mr. O'Kelly bought her at Bristol for a hundred guineas. The colonel was repeatedly offered five hundred guineas a year for the bird, by persons who wished to make a public exhibition of her; but this, out of tenderness to the favourite, he constantly refused.' She could not only repeat a great number of sentences, but answer questions put to her. When singing, she beat time with all the appearance of science; and so accurate was her judgment that if by chance she mistook a note, she would revert to the bar where the mistake was made, correct herself, and still beating regular time, go through the whole with wonderful exactness.

A Highwayman.

In the autumn of 1817, a complaint was made at Hatton-garden police-office by two ladies, who stated that they had been robbed in the following singular manner:—While walking near Battle-bridge, about six o'clock in the evening, a dog, unaccompanied by any person, sprung suddenly from the roadside, and seizing hold of the reticule which one of the ladies had in her hand, forcibly snatched it from her, and turning off the road, made his escape.

A constable stated that a dog answering the same description had also robbed a poor woman of a bundle containing two shirts, some handkerchiefs, &c., with which he got clear off. Several other instances of a similar nature were mentioned, and the general conclusion was that the animal had been trained up to the business, and that his master was in waiting at no great distance to receive the fruits of the canine plunderer.

Chinese Fishing Birds.

The most extraordinary mode of fishing in China, and which is peculiar to it, is by birds trained for that purpose. Falcons when employed in the air, or hounds when following a scent on the earth, are not more sagacious in the pursuit of their prey, or more certain in obtaining it, than these birds in another element. They are called Looau, and are about the size of a goose, with grey plumage,

webbed feet, and have a long and very slender bill, crooked at the point. Their faculty of diving, or remaining under water, is not more extraordinary than that of many other fowls that prey upon fish; but the wonderful circumstance is the docility of these birds, in employing their natural instinctive powers at the command of the fishermen who possess them, in the same manner as the hound, the spaniel, or the pointer, submit their respective sagacity to the huntsman or the fowler.

The number of these birds in a boat is proportioned to the size of it. At a certain signal, they rush into the water and dive after the fish; and the moment they have seized their prey, they fly with it to their boat; and though there may be a hundred of these vessels together, the sagacious birds always return to their own masters; and amidst the crowd of fishing junks which are sometimes assembled on these occasions, they never fail to distinguish that to which they belong. When fish are in great plenty, these astonishing conveyors will soon fill a boat with them; and will sometimes be seen flying along with fish of such size, as to make the beholder who is unaccustomed to the sight suspect his organs of vision; and such is their extraordinary sagacity, that when one of them happens to have taken a fish which is too bulky for the management of a single fowl, the rest immediately afford their assistance. While they are thus labouring for their masters, they are prevented from paying any attention to themselves, by a ring which is passed round their necks; and is so contrived as to frustrate any attempt to swallow the least morsel of what they take.

Constancy of Affection.

A gentleman who had a dog of a most extraordinary disposition, was obliged to go a journey periodically once a month. His stay was short, and his departure and return very regular, and without variation. The dog always grew uneasy when he first lost his master, and moped in a corner, but recovered himself gradually as the time for his return approached; which he knew to an hour, nay to a minute. When he was convinced that his master was on the road, at no great distance from home, he flew all over the house, and the street door happened to be shut, he would suffer no servant to have any rest until it was opened. The moment he obtained his freedom, away he went, and to a certainty to his benefactor about two miles from town. He played and frolicked about him till he had obtained one of his gloves, with which he either ran or rather flew home, entered the house, laid down in the middle of the room, and danced round it. When he had sufficiently amused himself in this manner, out of the house he flew, returned to meet his master, and ran before him, or gamboled by his side, till he arrived with him at home. I know not say Mr. Dibdin, who relates this anecdote, but frequently this was repeated, but it lasted

and gentleman grew infirm and incapable of continuing his journeys. The dog by this was also grown old, and became at length blind; but this misfortune did not prevent him from fondling his master, whom he drew from every other person, and for whom his affection and solicitude rather increased as he grew old. The old gentleman, after a long illness, died. The dog knew the circumstance, watched the corpse, blind as he was, and did his utmost to prevent the undertaker from screwing up the body in the coffin, and most outrageously opposed its being taken into the house. Being past hope, he grew more solitary, lost his flesh, and was evidently dying towards his end. One day he heard his master come into the house, and he ran to meet him. His master being old and infirm, he rubbed his stockings for warmth. The dog perceived it, and thought it was his master, and began to exhibit the most extravagant signs of pleasure; but upon further examination finding his mistake, he retired to a corner, where in a short time he died.

Foraging.

On the 10th of October, 1817, one of the constables of St. Giles-in-the-East, London, made a complaint before the magistrates at Shadwell office, that a horse for stealing hay. The constable stated that the horse came regularly every night of its own accord, and without any attendant, to the coach-stands in St. Giles's, fully satisfied his appetite, and then he would go away. He defied the whole of the officers to apprehend him; for if they attempted to go near him while he was eating, he would throw up his heels and kick at them, and if they did not go out of the way, he would bite them. The constable therefore thought it best to represent the case to the magistrates.

of the Magistrates. 'Well, Mr. Constable, if you should be annoyed again by this horse in the execution of your duty, you may apprehend him if you can, and bring him before us to answer your complaints.'

Power of Music.

Music has charms to soothe the savage breast,
To soften rocks, or bend the knotted oak.'

CONGREVE.

Many ancient writers tell us of musicians who, by their art, could tame the most furious wild beasts; and it is well known in America, that the rattlesnake will be so overcome and tamed, as it were, by soft music, as to crawl itself at full length upon the ground, and remain in all appearance without life or motion. There is a species of dancing snakes which are carried in baskets through Hindostan, and procure a maintenance for a set of people who play a few simple notes on the

flute, with which the snakes seem much delighted, and keep time by a graceful motion of the head, erecting about half their length from the ground, and following the music with gentle curves, like the undulating lines of a swan's neck. 'It is a well-attested fact,' says Forbes, in his 'Oriental Memoirs,' 'that when a house is infested with these snakes, and some other of the coluber genus which destroy poultry and small domestic animals, as also by the larger serpents of the boa tribe, the musicians are sent for, who, by playing on a flageolet, find out their hiding places, and charm them to destruction: for no sooner do the snakes hear the music, than they come softly from their retreat, and are easily taken.'

The deer also is very fond of the sound of the pipe, and will stand and listen attentively. Waller, in his 'Ode to Isabella on her Playing on the Lute,' has the following allusion to the fondness of this animal for music:—

'Here love takes stand, and while she charms
The ear,

Empties his quiver on the listening deer.'

Playford, in his 'Introduction to Music,' has a curious passage on this subject. 'Myself,' says he, 'as I travelled some years since near Royston, met a herd of stags, about twenty, on the road, following a bagpipe and violin: while the music played, they went forward; when it ceased, they all stood still; and in this manner they were brought out of Yorkshire to Hampton Court.'

One Sunday evening, five choristers were walking on the banks of the river Mersey, in Cheshire; after some time being tired with walking, they sat down on the grass, and began to sing an anthem. The field on which they sat, was terminated at one extremity by a wood, out of which, as they were singing, they observed a hare to pass with great swiftness towards the place where they were sitting, and to stop at about twenty yards' distance from them. She appeared highly delighted with the harmony of the music, often turning up the side of her head to listen with more facility. As soon as the harmonious sound was over, the hare returned slowly towards the wood; when she had nearly reached the end of the field, the choristers began the same piece again; at which the hare stopped, turned round, and came swiftly back to about the same distance as before, where she seemed to listen with rapture and delight, till they had finished the anthem, when she returned again by a slow pace up the field, and entered the wood.

Going to Market.

A butcher and cattle dealer, who resided about nine miles from Alston, in Cumberland, had a dog which he usually took with him when he drove cattle to the market to be sold, and who displayed uncommon dexterity in managing them. At last, so convinced was

the master of the sagacity, as well as the fidelity of his dog, that he made a wager that he would entrust him with a fixed number of sheep and oxen to drive alone to Alston market. It was stipulated that no person should be within sight or hearing, who had the least control over the dog; nor was any spectator to interfere, nor be within a quarter of a mile. On the day of trial, the dog proceeded with his business in the most dexterous and steady manner; and although he had frequently to drive his charge through the herds who were grazing, yet he never lost one, but conducting them into the very yard to which he was used to drive them when with his master, he significantly delivered them up to the person appointed to receive them, by barking at the door. What more particularly marked the dog's sagacity was, that when the path the herd travelled lay through a spot where others were grazing, he would run forward, stop his own drove, and then driving the others from each side of the path, collect his scattered charge and proceed. He was several times afterwards thus sent alone for the amusement of the curious or the convenience of his master, and always acquitted himself in the same adroit and intelligent manner.

Presumptive Guilt.

In Smyrna there are a great number of storks, who build their nests and hatch their young very regularly. The inhabitants, in order to divert themselves at the expense of these birds, and gratify a cruel disposition, sometimes convey hen's eggs into the stork's nest; and when the young are hatched, the cock on seeing them of a different form from his own species, makes a hideous noise, which brings a crowd of other storks about the nest, who to revenge the disgrace which they imagine the hen has brought upon her race, immediately peck her to death. The cock in the meantime makes the heaviest lamentation, as if bewailing his misfortune, which obliged him to have recourse to such extreme punishment.

Accomplished Shoplifter.

A young gentleman lately residing in Edinburgh, was the master of a handsome spaniel bitch, which he had bought from a dealer in dogs. The animal had been educated to steal for the benefit of his protector; but it was some time ere his new master became aware of this irregularity of morals, and he was not a little astonished and teased by its constantly bringing home articles of which it had feloniously obtained possession. Perceiving, at length, that the animal proceeded systematically, in this sort of behaviour, he used to amuse his friends, by causing the spaniel to give proofs of her sagacity in the Spartan art of privately stealing, putting of course the shopkeepers where he meant

she should exercise her faculty on their guard as to the issue.

The process was curious, and excites some surprise at the pains which must have been bestowed to qualify the animal for these practices. As soon as the master entered the shop, the dog seemed to avoid all appearance of recognising or acknowledging any connexion with him, but lounged about in an indolent, disengaged, and independent sort of manner, as if she had come into the shop of her accord. In the course of looking over some wares, her master indicated by a touch on the parcel and a look towards the spaniel, that which he desired she should appropriate, and then left the shop. The dog, whose watchful eye caught the hint in an instant, instead of following her master out of the shop, continued to sit at the door, or lie by the fire, watching the counter, until she observed the attention of the people of the shop withdrawn from the prize which she wished to secure. Whenever she saw an opportunity of doing so, as she imagined unobserved, she never failed to jump upon the counter with her fore feet, possess herself of the gloves, or whatever else had been pointed out to her, and escape from the shop to join her master.

Drawing Water.

Some years ago, an ass was employed at Carisbrook Castle, in the Isle of Wight, in drawing water by a large wheel from a very deep well, supposed to have been sunk by the Romans. When the keeper wanted water, he would say to the ass, 'Tom, my boy, I want water; get into the wheel, my good lad; which Thomas immediately performed, with an alacrity and sagacity that would have done credit to a nobler animal; and no doubt he knew the precise number of times necessary for the wheel to revolve upon its axis, to complete his labour, because every time he brought the bucket to the surface of the well, he constantly stopped and turned round his honest head to observe the moment when his master laid hold of the bucket to draw it towards him, because he had then a nice evolution to make, either to recede or advance a little. It was pleasing to observe with what steadiness and regularity the poor animal performed his labour.

Descending the Alps.

The manner in which the asses descend the precipices of the Alps is truly extraordinary. In the passes of these mountains there are often on one side lofty eminences, and on the other frightful abysses; and as these generally follow the direction of the mountains, the road instead of lying on a level, forms at every little distance steep declivities of several hundred yards downwards. These can only be descended by asses, and the animals themselves seem sensible of the danger from the caution which they use. When they come to the edge of one of the descents, they stop if

elves, without being checked by the and if he inadvertently attempts to spur on, they are immovable. They seem to be time ruminating on the danger that fore them, and preparing themselves for counter; they not only attentively view and, but tremble and snort at the danger. Being resolved on the descent, they put their fore feet in a posture as if they were supporting themselves; they then also put their hind feet together, but a little forward as if they were going to lie down. In this attitude, having taken a survey of the road, they slide down with the swiftness of a meteor. In the meantime, all that the rider has to do is to keep himself fast in the saddle, without checking the rein; for the least motion is sufficient to disorder the equilibrium of the ass, in which case both must unavoidably perish. The address in this rapid descent is quite simple; for in their swiftest motion, when they might seem to have lost all government of themselves, they follow the different windings of the road, as if they had previously in their minds the route they were to take and taken every precaution for their

when he had finished, he called him to see what was done. The keeper made no answer. Having repeatedly called in vain, he began to feel alarmed at his situation, and he determined to go to the upper part of the cage, where, looking through the railing, he saw the lion and the keeper sleeping side by side. He immediately uttered a loud cry; the lion, awakened by the noise, started up and stared at the carpenter with an eye of fury, and then placing his paw on the breast of his keeper, lay down to sleep again. At length, the keeper was awakened by some of the attendants, and he did not appear in the least apprehensive on account of the situation in which he found himself, but shook the lion by the paw, and then gently conducted him to his former residence.

Visiting Ants.

M. Homberg relates, that there is a species of ants at Surinam, which the inhabitants call visiting ants. They march in troops, with the same regularity as a large and powerful army. As soon as they appear, all the coffers and chests of drawers in the house are set open for them, as they are sure to exterminate all the rats, and mice, and other noxious animals, acting as if they had a peculiar commission from nature to destroy them. The only misfortune is, they pay their visits too seldom; they would be welcome every month, but they do not appear sometimes for three years together.

Friendship a Guiding Star.

Blaine, in his 'Canine Pathology,' relates that a gentleman brought from New-York a dog of the true breed, which he called his brother, who resided in the neighbourhood of Thames Street; but who, having no other means of keeping the animal in close confinement, preferred sending a friend living in Scotland. The dog, having been originally disembarked at White Street, was again re-embarked at the same place, on board a Berwick smack. During his stay in London, he had never been more than half a mile from the spot where he was bred. He had however contracted an affection for his master; and when he arrived in Scotland, and his regret at the separation induced him to take the first opportunity of returning; and though he certainly had never travelled one yard of the road, yet he was his way back in a very short time to his residence in London, but in so excited a state, that he had only time to express his joy at seeing his master, and expired within an hour after his arrival.

Making Sure.

During the war between Augustus Cæsar and Marc Antony, when all the world stood wondering and uncertain which way Fortune would incline herself, a poor man at Rome, in order to be prepared for making, in either event, a bold hit for his own advancement, had recourse to the following ingenious expedient. He applied himself to the training of two crows with such diligence, that he brought them the length of pronouncing with great distinctness, the one a salutation to Cæsar, and the other a salutation to Antony. When Augustus returned conqueror, the man went out to meet him with the crow suited to the occasion, perched on his fist, and every now and then it kept exclaiming, '*Salve, Cæsar, Victor Imperator!*' 'Hail, Cæsar, Conqueror and Emperor!' Augustus, greatly struck and delighted with so novel a circumstance, purchased the bird of the man for a sum which immediately raised him into opulence.

Lion and his Keeper.

In a menagerie at Brussels, there is a lion named Danco, whose cage was lately in want of repairs. His keeper desired a carpenter to set about it, but when the workman had saw the lion, he started back with terror. The keeper entered the animal's cage, and led him to the upper part of it, while the carpenter was refitting. He there amused himself some time playing with the lion, and then, having tired, he soon fell asleep. The carpenter, relying upon the vigilance of the keeper, pursued his work with rapidity, and

Immovable Fidelity.

A dog, between the breed of a mastiff and a bull-dog, belonging to a chimney-sweeper, laid, according to his master's orders, on a soot-bag, which he had placed inadvertently almost in the middle of a narrow back street,

in the town of Southampton. A loaded cart passing by, the driver desired the dog to move out of the way. On refusing he was scolded, then beaten, first gently, and afterwards with the smart application of the cart-whip; all to no purpose. The fellow, with an oath, threatened to drive over the dog—he did so, and the faithful animal in endeavouring to arrest the progress of the wheel, by biting it, was crushed to pieces.

Filial Affection.

Mr. Turner, who resided long in America, mentions an affecting trait in the character of the bison, when a calf. Whenever a cow bison falls by the murderous hand of the hunters, and happens to have a calf, the hapless young one, far from attempting to escape, stays by its fallen dam with signs expressive of the strongest natural affection. The body of the dam thus secured, the hunter takes no heed of the calf, of which he knows he is sure, but proceeds to cut up the carcass; then, laying it on his horse, he returns home, followed by the poor calf, which instinctively attends the remains of its dam. Mr. Turner says, that he has seen a single hunter ride into the town of Cincinnati, followed in this manner by three calves, which seemed each to claim of him the parent of whom he had cruelly bereft it.

Two spaniels, mother and son, were self-hunting in Mr. Drake's woods near Amersham, in Bucks. The gamekeeper shot the mother; the son frightened, ran away for an hour or two, and then returned to look for his mother. Having found her dead body, he laid himself down by her, and was found in that situation the next day by his master, who took him home, together with the body of the mother. Six weeks did this affectionate creature refuse all consolation, and almost all nutriment. He became at length universally convulsed, and died of grief.

Tame Hares.

In Borlase's 'Natural History of Cornwall,' we have an account of a hare which was so domesticated as to feed from the hand, lay under a chair in a common sitting-room, and appear in every other respect as easy and comfortable in its situation as a lapdog. It now and then went out into the garden, but after regaling itself with the fresh air, always returned to the house as its proper habitation. Its usual companions were a greyhound and spaniel, with whom it spent its evenings, the whole three sporting and sleeping together on the same hearth. What makes the circumstance more remarkable is, that the greyhound and spaniel were both so fond of hare-hunting, that they used often to go out coursing together, without any person accompanying them; they were like the '*sly couple*,' of whose de-

votion to the chase an amusing instance has been already recorded.

Dr. Townson, the traveller, when at Göttingen, had brought a young hare to such a degree of frolicsome familiarity, that it would run and jump about his sofa and bed; leap upon, and pat, him with its fore feet; or whilst he was reading, knock the book out of his hands, as if to claim, like a fondled child, the exclusive preference of his attention.

Grateful Return.

A favourite house-dog, left to the care of its master's servants at Edinburgh, while he was himself in the country, would have been starved by them if it had not had recourse to the kitchen of a friend of its master's, where in better days it had occasionally visited. On the return of the master it enjoyed plenty at home, and stood in no further need of the liberality it experienced; but still it did not forget that hospitable kitchen where it had found a resource in adversity. A few days after, the dog fell in with a duck, which, as he found in no private pond, he probably concluded to be no private property. He snatched up the duck in his teeth, carried it to the kitchen where he had been so hospitably fed, laid it at the cook's feet, with many polite movements of the tail, and then scampered off with much seeming complacency, having given this testimony of his grateful sense of favours.

Assisting the Aged.

M. de Boussanelle, captain of cavalry in the regiment of Beauvilliers, mentions, that a horse belonging to his company, being for age unable to eat his hay or grind his oats, was fed for two months by two horses on the right and left, who eat with him. These two horses, drawing the hay out of the rack, chewed it, and then put it before the old horse, and did the same with the oats, when he was then able to eat.

Saving from Drowning.

A native of Germany, fond of travelling, was pursuing his course through Holland, accompanied by a large dog. Walking one evening on a high bank which formed on one side of a dyke or canal, so common in that country, his foot slipped, and he was precipitated into the water, and being unable to swim, soon became senseless. When he recovered his recollection, he found himself in a cottage, on the contrary side of the dyke to that from which he fell, surrounded by peasants, who had been using the means generally practised in that country for the recovery of drowned persons. The account given by the peasants was, that one of them, returning home from his labour, observed at a considerable distance a large dog in the water, swimming and dragging, and some

pushing, something that he seemed to great difficulty in supporting; but which length succeeded in getting into a small on the opposite side to that on which n were.

n the animal had drawn what the t now perceived to be a man, as far the water as he was able, he began to e hands and face of his master, until n hastened across, and procuring as- n, had the body conveyed to a neigh- g house, where the resuscitating means on restored him to sense and recollec- it appeared that the dog had swam is master upwards of a quarter of a olding him by the nape of the neck, is keeping his head above water.

Oyster Opening.

elli Carreri, in his 'Voyage Round the ' relates a circumstance concerning the tang in its wild state, which is indica- very considerable powers, both of re- and invention. When the fruits on untains are exhausted, they will fre- descend to the seacoast, where they a various species of shell-fish, but in lar on a large sort of oyster, which nly lies open on the shore. 'Fearful,' s, 'of putting in their paws, lest the should close and crush them, they a stone as a wedge within the shell; events it from closing, and they then it their prey, and devour it at leisure.' old might have saved his life, had he ly half as wise.

Marine Barometers.

g of the pointer kind, brought from Carolina in an English merchant vessel, remarkable prognosticator of bad . Whenever he was observed to o his ears, scratch the deck, and rear to look to the windward, whence he agerly snuff up the wind; if it was : finest weather imaginable, the crew re of a succeeding tempest; and the came so useful, that whenever they ed the fit upon him they immediately d the sails, and took in their spare to prepare for the worst. Other ani- e prognosticators of weather also; and seldom a storm at sea, but it is fore- some of the *natural* marine bar- on board, many hours before the gale. d pigs, for instance, perceiving, though not, the alteration in the atmosphere, e effect it has on their bodies, will run ke wild creatures. The cat will dance down the shrouds, gnaw the ropes, ert herself with every thread that stirs. gs will race about, bite one another, imence perfect posture masters, though t many a kick for it from the appe- sailor. May not the popular saying 'seeing the wind,' have had its origin is circumstance? Poultry on ship-

board, also, before the approach of windy weather, are greatly disturbed, beating their wings about their coops, drooping prodigiously, and making a low mournful kind of cackling.

Bisset, the Animal Teacher.

Few individuals have presented so striking an instance of patience and eccentricity as Bisset, the extraordinary teacher of animals. He was a native of Perth, and an industrious shoemaker, until the notion of teaching the quadruped kind attracted his attention in the year 1759. Reading an account of a remarkable horse shown at St. Germain's, curiosity led him to try his hand on a horse and a dog, which he bought in London, and he succeeded beyond all expectation. Two monkeys were the next pupils he took in hand, one of which he taught to dance and tumble on the rope, whilst the other held a candle in one paw for his companion, and with the other played a barrel organ. These antic animals he also instructed to play several fanciful tricks, such as drinking to the company, riding and tumbling on a horse's back, and going through several regular dances with a dog. Being a man of unwearied patience, three young cats were the next objects of his tuition. He taught these domestic tigers to strike their paws in such directions on the dulcimer as to produce several regular tunes, having music-books before them, and squalling at the same time in different keys or tones, first, second, and third, by way of concert. He afterwards was induced to make a public exhibition of his animals, and the well-known *Cat's Opera* was advertised in the Haymarket; the horse, the dog, the monkeys, and the cats, went through their several parts with uncommon applause to crowded houses; and in a few days Bisset found himself possessed of near a thousand pounds to reward his ingenuity.

This success excited Bisset's desire to extend his dominion over other animals, including even the feathered kind. He procured a young leveret, and reared it to beat several marches on the drum with its hind legs, until it became a good stout hare. He taught canary birds, linnets, and sparrows to spell the name of any person in company, to distinguish the hour and minute of time, and play many other surprising fancies. He trained six turkey cocks to go through a regular country dance; but in doing this confessed he adopted the Eastern method, by which camels are made to dance by heating the floor. In the course of six months' teaching, he made a turtle fetch and carry like a dog; and having chalked the floor and blackened its claws, could direct it to trace out any given name in the company. He trained a dog and cat to go through many amazing performances. His confidence even led him to try experiments on a goldfish, which he did not despair of making perfectly tractable. But sometime afterwards a doubt being started to him, whether the obstinacy of a pig could

not be conquered, his usual patient fortitude was devoted to the experiment. He bought a black sucking-pig, and trained it to lie under the stool on which he sat at work. At various intervals during six or seven months, he tried in vain to bring the young boar to his purpose; and despairing of every kind of success, he was on the point of giving it away, when it struck him to adopt a new mode of teaching, in consequence of which, in the course of sixteen months, he made an animal supposed the most obstinate and perverse in nature, to become the most tractable. In August, 1783, he once again turned itinerant, and took his learned pig to Dublin, where it was shown for two or three nights at Ranelagh. It was not only under full command, but appeared as pliant and good-natured as a spaniel. When the weather having made it necessary he should remove into the city, he obtained the permission of the chief magistrate, and exhibited the pig in Dame Street. 'It was seen,' says the author of *'Anthologia Hibernica,'* 'for two or three days, by many persons of respectability, to spell without any apparent direction the names of those in the company; to cast up accounts, and to point out even the words thought of by persons present; to tell exactly the hour, minutes, and seconds; to point out the married; to kneel, and to make his obeisance to the company, &c. &c. Poor Bisset was thus in a fair way of 'bringing his pig to a good market,' when a man, whose insolence disgraced authority, broke into the room without any sort of pretext, assaulted the unoffending man, and drew his sword to kill the swine, an animal that in the practice of good manners was at least superior to his assailant. The injured Bisset pleaded in vain the permission that had been granted him; he was threatened to be dragged to prison. He was constrained to return home, but the agitation of his mind threw him into a fit of illness, and he died a few days after at Chester on his way to London.

Sonnini and his Cat.

M. Sonnini, when in Egypt, had an Angora cat, of which he was extremely fond. It was entirely covered with long white silken hairs; its tail formed a magnificent plume, which the animal elevated at pleasure over its body. Not one spot, nor a single dark shade, tarnished the dazzling white of its coat. Its nose and lips were of a delicate rose colour. Two large eyes sparkled in its round head; one was of a light yellow, and the other of a fine blue.

This beautiful animal had even more loveliness of manners than grace in its attitude and movements. With the physiognomy of goodness she possessed a gentleness truly interesting. However ill anyone used her, she never attempted to advance her claws from their sheaths. Sensible to kindness, she licked the hand which caressed, and even that which tormented her. In Sonnini's solitary moments, she chiefly kept by his side; she interrupted

him often in the midst of his labours or meditations, by little caresses extremely touching, and generally followed him in his walk. During his absence she sought and called for him incessantly, with the utmost inquietude. She recognised his voice at a distance, and seemed on each fresh meeting with him to feel increased delight.

'This animal,' says Sonnini, 'was my principal amusement for several years. How was the expression of attachment depicted upon her countenance! How many times have her caresses made me forget my troubles, and consoled me in my misfortunes! My beautiful and interesting companion, however, at length perished. After several days of suffering, during which I never forsook her, her eyes constantly fixed on me, were at length extinguished; and her loss rent my heart with sorrow.'

The ivory-billed woodpecker of America stands at the head of his species. His appearance and his manners have a dignity in them superior to the common herd of woodpeckers. Wherever he frequents, he leaves numerous monuments of his industry behind him. When there see enormous pine trees, with cart loads of bark lying around their roots, and chips of the trunk itself in such quantities, as to suggest the idea that half a dozen of axe men have been at work there for the whole morning. The body of the tree is also disfigured with such numerous and such large excavations that one can hardly conceive it possible for the whole to be the work of a woodpecker. With such strength, and an apparatus so powerful, what havoc might not numbers of his species commit on the most useful of our forest trees; and yet, with all these appearances, and much of vulgar prejudice against him, it may fairly be questioned whether he is at all injurious, or at least, whether his exertions do not contribute most powerfully to the protection of the timber. Examine closely the tree where he has been at work, and you will soon perceive that it is neither from motives of mischief nor amusement that he slices off the bark, or digs his way into the trunk—for the sound and healthy tree is not the object of his attention. The diseased trees, infested with insects, and hastening to putrefaction, are his favourites; there the deadly crawling enemy have formed a lodgment, between the bark and tender wood to drink up the very vital part of the tree. It is the ravages of these vermin which the intelligent proprietor of the forest deploras as the sole perpetrators of the destruction of his timber. Would it be believed that the larva of an insect, or fly, no longer than a grain of rice, should silently, and in one season, destroy some thousand acres of pine trees, many of them from two to three feet in diameter, and a hundred and fifty feet high? Yet, wherever passes along the high road, from Georgetown to Charleston, in South Carolina, about twenty miles from the former place, can have striking and melancholy proofs of this fact. In some places, the whole woods, as far as you can see around you, are dead, stripped of the

their wintry-looking arms and bare bleaching in the sun, and tumbling in before every blast, representing a fright-ure of desolation.

of these woodpeckers slightly wounded wing, was locked in a room in an inn at an hour, during which time he had a effort to escape. He had mounted e side of the window, nearly as high eeling, a little below which he had o break through. The floor was co-ith large pieces of plaster; the lath osed for at least fifteen inches square, le large enough to admit the hand, to the weather boards, so that in less o other hour, he would certain'y have ed in making his way through.

Division of Labour.

Alpine marmots are said to act in cou-he collection of inaterials for the con-oid, cut the herbage, others collect it ps; a third set serve as waggons to o their holes; while a fourth perform unctions of draught horses. The of the latter part of the curious pro-uis. The animal who is to serve as gon lies down on his back, and ex-his four limbs as wide as he can, allows o be loaded with hay; and those who e the draught horses trail him thus y the tail, taking care not to overset he task of thus serving as the vehicle idently the least enviable part of the is taken by every one of the party 'I have often,' says Mr. Beauplan 'Description of the Ukraine'), 'seen ctise this, and have had the curiosity them at it for days together.'

Crab Fishing.

l, in his 'History of North Caro- s the following instance of the ex-ry cunning manifested by the Ra- is fond of crabs, and when in quest will stand by the side of a swamp, g its tail over into the water; the taking it for food, are sure to lay hold d as soon as the beast feels them pulls them out with a sudden jerk. takes them to a little distance from r's edge; and in devouring them, il to get them crossways in his lest he should suffer from their

Wild Herds.

province of Cumana, there are in-mbers of wild horses in the forests. there in societies, generally to the f five or six hundred, and even one ; they occupy immense savannas, is dangerous to disturb, or try to n. In the dry season, they are some-

times obliged to go two or three leagues, and even more, to find water. They set out in regular ranks, four abreast, and thus form a procession of an extent of a quarter of a league. There are always five or six scouts, who precede the troop by about fifty paces. If they perceive a man or an American tiger, they neigh, and the troop stops; if avoided, they continue their march; but if an attempt be made to pass across their squadron, they leap on the imprudent traveller, and crush him under their feet. The best way is always to avoid them, and let them continue their route. They have also a chief, who marches between the scouts and the squadron; a kind of adjutant, whose duty consists in hindering any individual from quitting the ranks. If any one attempts to straggle, either from hunger or fatigue, he is bitten till he resumes his place, and the culprit obeys with his head hanging down. Three or four chiefs march at the rear-guard, at five or six paces from the troops.

The wild asses, when they travel, observe the same discipline as horses; but males, though they also live in troops, are continually fighting with each other, and it has not been observed that they have any chief. At the appearance of a common enemy, however, they unite and display still more tricks and address than the horses, in avoiding the snares which are laid for catching them, and also in escap-ing when taken.

White-Headed Eagle.

In the United States of America, there is a species of eagle called the white-headed or bald eagle, which feeds equally on the produce of the sea and of the land, but is particularly fond of fish. In procuring the latter, he displays in a very singular manner his cunning and his power, which bear down all opposition. 'Elevated,' says Wilson, in his 'American Ornithology,' 'on the high dead limb of some gigantic tree, that commands a high view of the neighbouring shore and ocean, he seems calmly to contemplate the motions of the various feathered tribes that pursue their busy avocations below; the snow-white gulls, slowly winnowing the air; the busy tringæ, coursing along the sands; trains of ducks streaming over the surface; silent and watchful cranes, intent and wading; clamorous crows; and all the winged multitude that subsist by the bounty of this vast liquid magazine of nature. High over all these hovers one, whose action instantly arrests all attention. By his wide curvature of wing, and sudden suspension in the air, he knows him to be the fish-hawk, settling over some devoted victim of the deep. His eye kindles at the sight, and balancing himself with half-opened wings on the branch, he watches the result. Down, rapid as an arrow from heaven, descends the distant object of his attention, the roar of its wings reaching the ear as it disappears in the deep, making the surges foam around! At this moment the looks of the eagle are all ar-

dour ; and levelling his neck for flight, he sees the fish-hawk once more emerge, struggling with his prey, and mounting into the air with screams of exultation. This is the signal for the eagle, who, launching in the air, instantly gives chase, and soon gains on the fish-hawk ; each exerts his utmost power to mount above the other, displaying in these rencontres the most elegant and sublime aerial evolutions. The unencumbered eagle rapidly advances, and is just on the point of reaching his opponent, when with a sudden scream, probably of despair and honest execration, the latter drops his fish ; the eagle poising himself for a moment, as if to take a more certain aim, descends like a whirlwind, snatches it in his grasp ere it reaches the water, and bears his ill-gotten booty silently away into the woods.

These predatory attacks and defensive manœuvres of the eagle and the fish-hawk, are matters of daily observation along the whole of the sea-coast, from Georgia to New England, and frequently excite great interest in the spectators.

The Tailor Bird.

The tailor bird of Hindostan is so called, from its instinctive ingenuity in forming its nest. It first selects a plant with large leaves, and then gathers cotton from the shrub, spins it to a thread by means of its long bill and slender feet, and then, as with a needle, sews the leaves neatly together to conceal its nest. How applicable are the following lines in the 'Musæ Seatonianæ,' to this ingenious bird :

' Behold a bird's nest,
Mark it well within, without !
No tool had he that wrought ; no knife
to cut,
No nail to fix ; no bodkin to insert,
No glue to join ; his little beak was all ;
And yet how neatly finished ! what nice
hand,
With every implement and means of art,
Could compass such another ?'

Infalible Thief-catcher.

An English gentleman, visiting a public garden at St. Germain, in France, accompanied by a large mastiff, was refused admittance for his dog, whom he therefore left to the care of the body guards, who were stationed at the gate. Some time after, the gentleman returned, and informed the guards that he had lost his watch, and told the serjeant that if he would permit him to take in the dog, he would soon discover the thief. His request being granted, he made the dog understand by a motion what he had lost : the animal immediately ran about among the company, and traversed the garden for some time. At length, it seized hold of a man ; the gentleman insisted that he was the person who had got the watch, and on being searched, not only that watch, but six others, were dis-

covered in his pockets. What is more remarkable, the dog possessed such perfection of instinct, as to take his master's watch from the other six, and carry it to him !

Rare Honesty.

A mastiff dog, who owed more to the bounty of a neighbour than to his master, was once locked by mistake in the well-stored pantry of his benefactor for a whole day, where milk, butter, bread, and meat, within his reach, were in abundance. On the return of the servant to the pantry, seeing the dog come out, and knowing the time he had been confined, she trembled for the devastation which her negligence must have occasioned ; but on close examination, it was found that the honest creature had not tasted of any thing, although, on coming out, he fell on a bone that was given to him, with all the voraciousness of hunger.

Of Two Evils Choosing the Least.

A French dog was taught by his master to execute various commissions, and among others, to fetch him victuals from the *traiteur* in a basket. One evening when the dog was returning to his master thus furnished, two other dogs, attracted by the savoury smell of the petits pâtés that this new messenger was carrying, determined to attack him. The dog put his basket on the ground, and set himself courageously against the first that advanced against him ; but while he was engaged with the one, the other ran to the basket, and began to help himself. At length, seeing that there was no chance of beating both dogs, and saving his master's dinner, he threw himself between his two opponents, and without further ceremony, quickly despatched the remainder of the petits pâtés himself, and then returned to his master with the empty basket.

Duty before Revenge.

A gentleman residing in the City of London was going one afternoon to his country cottage, accompanied by Cæsar, a favourite Newfoundland dog, when he recollected that he had the key of a cellaret which would be wanted at home during his absence. Having accustomed his dog to carry things, he sent him back with the key ; the dog executed the commission, and afterwards rejoined his master, who discovered that he had been fighting, and was much torn about the head. The cause he afterwards learned, on his return to town in the evening. Cæsar, while passing with the key, was attacked by a ferocious butcher's dog, against whom he made no resistance, but tore himself away without relinquishing his charge. After delivering the key in town, he returned to

way, and on reaching the butcher's shop which he had been so rudely assailed, popped and looked out for his antagonist ; dog sallied forth ; Cæsar attacked him a fury which nothing but revenge for wrongs could have animated ; nor did he the butcher's dog, until he had laid him at his feet.

Connoisseur.

John Lockman, in some 'Reflections' prefixed to his musical drama of *Admetus*, mentions a singular instance of use of melody evinced by a pigeon. At the house of Mr. Lee, a gentleman of the shire, whose daughter was an excellent player on the harpsichord, he observed a which, whenever the young lady the song of 'Speri si,' in Handel's of *Admetus*, but upon no other occasion could descend from an adjacent dove to the window of the room where she and listen, apparently with the most emotions, till the song was finished, it immediately returned to the dove-

The Mocking-Bird.

intelligence (says Wilson) which the can mocking-bird displays in listening laying up lessons, from almost every of the feathered creation within his is really surprising, and marks the rity of his genius. He possesses a ill, strong, and musical, and capable of every modulation, from the clear notes of the wood thrush, to the scream of the bald eagle. In the and accent, he faithfully follows his s. In force and sweetness of expres greatly improves upon them. In his groves, mounted on the top of a tall half-grown tree, in the dawn of a morning, while the woods are already with a multitude of warblers, his ad-song rises pre-eminent over every ator. Neither is this strain altogether e. His own native notes, which are distinguishable, are bold and full, and seemingly beyond all limits. They of short expressions of two, three, or five or six syllables, generally inter with imitations, and all of them with great emphasis and rapidity, ntinued with undiminished ardour. yant gaiety of his action arresting the his song most irresistibly does the ear, ps round with an enthusiastic ecstasy ; its and descends as his song swells or ay ; and, as it has been beautifully d, 'he bounds aloft with the celerity row, as if to recover or recall his very pired in the last elevated strain.' erting himself, a bystander, destitute t, would suppose that the whole d tribe had assembled together on a skill, each striving to produce his

utmost effect, so perfect are his imitations. He many times deceives the sportsman, and sends him in search of birds that perhaps are not within miles of him, but whose notes he exactly imitates : even birds themselves are frequently imposed on by this admirable mimic, and are decoyed by the fancied calls of their mate, or dive with precipitation into the depth of the thickets, at the scream of what they suppose to be the sparrowhawk.

The mocking-bird loses little of the power and energy of his song by confinement. In his domesticated state, when he commences his career of song, it is impossible to stand by uninterested. He whistles for the dog ; Cæsar starts up, wags his tail, and runs to meet his master. He squeaks out like a hurt chicken, and the hen hurries about with hanging wings and bristled feathers, clucking to protect her injured brood. The barking of the dog, the mewing of the cat, the creaking of a passing wheelbarrow, follow with great truth and rapidity. He repeats the tune taught him by his master, though of considerable length, fully and faithfully. He runs over the quiverings of the canary, and the clear whistlings of the Virginia nightingale, or red-bird, with such superior execution and effect, that the mortified songsters feel their own inferiority, and become altogether silent, while he seems to triumph in their defeat by redoubling his exertions.

This excessive fondness for variety, however, in the opinion of some, injures his song. His elevated imitations of the brown thrush are frequently interrupted by the crowing of cocks ; and the warblings of the bluebird, which he exquisitely manages, are mingled with the screaming of swallows, or the cackling of hens ; amidst the simple melody of the robin, we are suddenly surprised by the shrill reiterations of the whip-poor-will ; while the notes of the killdeer, blue jay, martin, and twenty others, succeed with such imposing reality, that we look round for the originals, and discover, with astonishment, that the sole performer in this singular concert is the admirable bird now before us. During this exhibition of his powers, he spreads his wings, expands his tail, and throws himself round the cage in all the ecstasy of enthusiasm, seeming not only to sing, but to dance, keeping time to the measure of his music. Both in his native and domesticated state, during the solemn stillness of night, as soon as the moon rises in silent majesty, he begins his delightful solo ; and serenades us the livelong night with a full display of his vocal powers, making the whole neighbourhood ring with his inimitable medley.

Inconsolable Grief.

In the parish of St. Olave, Tooley Street, Borough, the churchyard is detached from the church, and surrounded with high buildings, so as to be wholly inaccessible but by one large close gate. A poor tailor of this parish

dying (says Mr. Blaine, in his 'Canine Pathology'), left a small cur dog inconsolable for his loss. The little animal would not leave his dead master even for food; and whatever he eat, was obliged to be placed in the same room with the corpse. When the body was removed for burial, this faithful attendant followed the coffin. After the funeral, he was hunted out of the churchyard by the sexton. The next day he again found the animal, who had made his way by some unaccountable means into the enclosure, and had dug himself a bed on the grave of his master. Once more he was hunted out, and again he was found in the same situation the following day. The minister of the parish hearing of the circumstance, had him caught, taken home and fed, and endeavoured by every means to win the animal's affections; but they were inseparably wedded to his late master, and he took the first opportunity to escape, and regain his lonely situation. With true benevolence, the worthy clergyman permitted him to follow the bent of his inclinations; but to soften the rigour of his fate, he built him a small kennel upon the grave, which was replenished once a day with food and water. Two years did this mirror of fidelity pass in this manner, till death put an end to his griefs.

The Dolphin.

The dolphin was in great repute amongst the ancients for its love to the human race; it was consecrated to the gods, and was honoured with the title of the Sacred Fish.

Pliny has the following, among other most marvellous instances of this love for mankind, which he confesses he would have been ashamed to relate, had they not been set down for truth in many veritable chronicles. In the reign of Augustus Cæsar, he tells us that there was a dolphin in the Lucrine lake, which formed a most romantic attachment to a poor man's son. The boy had to go every day from Baïæ to Puteoli to school, and such was the friendly terms on which he had got with the dolphin, that he had only to wait by the banks of the lake, and cry, *Simo, Simo*, the name he had given to the animal, when, lo! Simo came scudding to the shore, let fall the sharp prickles of his skin, and gently offered his back for the boy to mount upon. The boy, nothing afraid, used to mount instantly, when the dolphin, without either rein or spur, would speed across the sea to Puteoli, and after landing the young scholar, wait about the vicinity till he was returning home, when it would again perform the same sort of civil service. The boy was not ungrateful for such extraordinary favour, and used every day to bring a good store of victuals for Simo, which the animal would take from his hand in the most tame and kindly manner imaginable. For several years this friendly intercourse was kept up; it was, in fact, only terminated by the death of the boy; when, as the story goes, the dolphin was so affected at seeing him return no more, that it threw itself on the

shore, and died, *as was thought*, of very age and sorrow!

Wonderful as this story is, it is not without its fellow. Plutarch says, that 'there was the city of Jassos, a boy called Hermias (or Hermes), who had also formed such a friendship with a dolphin, that he used in the same way to ride on its back over the sea. It happened on one occasion of this kind, that a great storm arose, and the boy, unable to keep his seat, was drowned. The dolphin brought the dead body of its lost friend to shore, and as if reproaching itself for having been the cause of the calamity, would return to the sea no more, but launching itself on the sand, lay there till it expired.'

In all cases of shipwreck, the dolphin was believed to be in waiting, to rescue and carry on shore the unfortunate mariners. And the musician, when thrown overboard by the pirates, is said to have been indebted for life to this animal.

'But, past belief, a dolphin's arched back Preserved Arion from his destined wrack Secure he sits, and with harmonious strains Requisites the bearer for his friendly pains.'

Whence all these incredible stories originated, it is difficult to conjecture; for there is this insuperable objection to giving credit to them, that the dolphins of modern times exhibit no such marks of peculiar attachment to mankind. If they attend on vessels navigating the ocean, it is in the expectation of plunder, and not of tendering assistance in cases of distress. By the seamen of the present day, they are held in abhorrence rather than esteem, - or their frolics on the surface of the water are almost always the sure signs of an approaching gale.

Snake Destroyers.

Mr. Percival, in his account of the Islands of Ceylon, speaking of the Indian ichneumon, a small creature in appearance between a weasel and the mongoose, says it is of infinite use to the natives from its inveterate enmity to snakes, which would otherwise render every footstep of the traveller dangerous. This diminutive creature on seeing a snake even as large, will instantly dart on it, and seize it by the throat, provided he finds himself in an open place, where he has an opportunity of running to a certain herb, which he knows instinctively to be an antidote against the poison of the bite, if he should happen to receive it. Mr. Percival saw the experiment tried in a closed room, where the ichneumon, instead of attacking his enemy, did all in his power to avoid him. On being carried out of the house, however, and laid near his antagonist in a plantation, he immediately darted at the snake, and soon destroyed it. It then suddenly disappeared for a few minutes, and again returned, as soon as it had found the herb and ate it.

The monkeys in India, knowing by instinct the malignity of the snakes, are most vigilant.

destruction; they seize them when by the neck, and running to the nearest one, grind down the head by a strong pressure on the surface, frequently looking at grinning at their progress. When convinced that the venomous fangs are destroyed, the reptiles to their young ones to devour them, and seem to rejoice in the destruction of their common enemy.

Water Scenters.

A French traveller in Buenos Ayres relates, that the cattle there will scent water at a considerable distance, and are sensible of the approach of rain. In the course of his progress from Buenos Ayres to Montevideo, he observed this quality which he possessed. They had been long without water, and had sent the negroes to look for a spring, when the cattle began to bellow about their necks and raise their heads towards the west, as if they would be certain of finding drink, could they but raise their heads above the waves in the air. At that moment, not a breath of air was to be seen or felt; in a few minutes the cattle began to bellow as if mad, or possessed by some evil spirit, snuffing the air with most eagerness, and gathering closer and closer to each other; and before we could form any rational conjecture, as to what could produce their simultaneous motion, the most furious storm came on of thunder and rain, and the rain fell in perpendicular streams, as if all the fountains of heaven were suddenly broke loose, so that the cattle easily drank their fill at the spot on which they stood.

Musical Mice.

Even the great naturalist, Linnæus, in his description of the common mouse, said 'delectabilis,' yet so little was it credited, that he omitted mentioning this feature in his 'Systema Naturæ.' Subsequently, however, the assertion has been fully confirmed. Dr. Archur, of North Carolina, in the United States, says, 'On a rainy day in the winter of 1817, as I was alone in my chamber, I took up my flute and commenced playing. In a few minutes my attention was directed to a mouse that I saw creeping from a hole, and advancing to the place which I was sitting. I ceased playing, and it ran precipitately back to its hole; again shortly afterwards, and was surprised to see it reappear, and take the same position. The appearance of the little mouse was truly delightful; it couched itself close to the floor, shut its eyes, and appeared in the same position. I ceased playing, and it instantly ran forward again. This experiment I repeated frequently with the same success, and that it was always differently affected by the music varied from the slow and plaintive, to the brisk or lively. It finally

went off, and all my art could not entice it to return.'

A more remarkable instance of this fact appeared in the *Philadelphia Medical and Physical Journal*, in the year 1817. It was communicated by Dr. Cramer, of Jefferson's county, on the credit of a gentleman of undoubted veracity, who states that 'one evening in the month of December, as a few officers on board a British man of war, in the harbour of Portsmouth, were seated round the fire, one of them began to play a plaintive air on the violin. He had scarcely performed ten minutes, when a mouse, apparently frantic, made its appearance in the centre of the floor. The strange gestures of the little animal strongly excited the attention of the officers, who with one consent resolved to suffer it to continue its singular actions unmolested. Its exertions now appeared to be greater every moment—it shook its head, leaped about the table, and exhibited signs of the most ecstatic delight. It was observed, that in proportion to the gradation of the tones to the soft point, the feelings of the animal appeared to be increased, and *vice versâ*. After performing actions which an animal so diminutive would at first sight seem incapable of, the little creature, to the astonishment of the delighted spectators, suddenly ceased to move, fell down, and expired without evincing any symptoms of pain.

Spider's Web.

To put the ingenuity of the spider to the test, a gentleman frequently placed one on a small upright stick, and surrounded the base with water. After having discovered that the ordinary means of retreat are cut off, it ascends the point of the stick, and standing nearly on its head, ejects its web, which the wind readily carries to some contiguous object. Along this the sagacious insect effects its escape, not, however, until it has ascertained, by several exertions of its whole strength, that its web is properly attached to the other end.

In the year 1710, Mr. Bon communicated to the Society of Sciences at Montpelier, a discovery which he had made respecting spiders, whose silk, he said, furnished by their webs, was much finer and more plentiful than that of silkworms. The Duke de Noailles, he added, had ordered a pair of stockings to be spun out of spider's silk, which was presented to the Duchess of Burgundy, and acknowledged by her and the whole of the court to be of very extraordinary fineness. In consequence of this discovery, M. de Reaumur was directed by the society to make the necessary experiments; which, however, terminated unsuccessfully, on account of the difficulty of breeding the spiders, and the great number required to produce any quantity of silk. M. de Reaumur says, that 288 spiders would only furnish as much silk as one silkworm; and that it would take 663,552 to

make a pound of silk. For these reasons, therefore, the scheme, which was one of great ingenuity, seems to have been abandoned.

Water Pony.

A little girl, the daughter of a gentleman in Warwickshire, playing on the banks of a canal which run through his grounds, had the misfortune to fall in, and would in all probability have been drowned, had not a little pony which had been long kept in the family, plunged into the stream, and brought the child safely ashore, without the slightest injury.

Taking the Water.

A Newfoundland dog kept at the ferry-house at Worcester, was famous for having at different periods saved three persons from drowning; and so fond was he of the water, that he seemed to consider any disinclination to it in other dogs, as an insult on the species. If a dog was left on the bank by its master, under the idea that it would be obliged to follow the boat across the river, which is narrow, and if, as was not uncommon, it stood yelping at the bottom of the steps, unwilling to take the water, the old dog would go down to him, and with a satirical growl, as if in mockery, take him by the back of the neck, and throw him into the river.

Soliciting Succour.

A party of a ship's crew being sent ashore on a part of the coast of India, for the purpose of cutting wood for the ship, one of the men having strayed from the rest was greatly frightened by the appearance of a large lioness, who made towards him; but on her coming up, she lay down at his feet, and looked very earnestly first at him, and then at a tree a short distance off. After repeating her looks several times, she arose, and proceeded onwards to the tree, looking back several times, as if wishing the man to follow her. At length he ventured, and coming to the tree, he perceived a huge baboon with two young cubs in her arms, which he supposed were those of the lioness, as she couched down like a cat, and seemed to eye them very steadfastly. The man being afraid to ascend the tree, decided on cutting it down, and having his axe with him, he set actively to work, when the lioness seemed most attentive to what he was doing. When the tree fell, she sprung upon the baboon, and after tearing him in pieces, she turned round and licked the cubs for some time. She then turned to the man and fawned round him, rubbing her head against him in great fondness, and in token of her gratitude for the service he had done her. After this, she took the cubs away one by one, and the man returned to the ship.

Conveying Intelligence.

Dr. Franklin, upon discovering a number of ants regaling themselves with some treacle in one of his cupboards, put them to the rout, and then suspended the pot of treacle from the ceiling by a string. He imagined he had put the whole army to flight, but was surprised to see a single ant quit the pot, climb up the string, cross the ceiling, and regain its nest. In less than half an hour several of its companions sallied forth, traversed the ceiling, and reached the depository, which they constantly visited until the treacle was consumed. The doctor was therefore of opinion, that ants were enabled to communicate their ideas to each other.

In a memoir published in the 'Transactions of the French Academy,' an account is given of a solitary ant, that was taken from its nest and thrown upon a heap of corn; it was observed, after surveying this treasure, hasten immediately back to its residence, where it doubtless communicated to its associates the intelligence; for the granary was very soon filled with visitors, and the corn carried off.

Smith, in his 'New Voyage to Guinea' relates what he calls 'a remarkable story of these gentry, the ants. He says, 'If the ants have not a language (as many people believe they have), yet they certainly have some method or other whereby they can make themselves to be understood, as I have often experimented in the following manner. When I have seen two or three straggling ants upon the hunt, I have killed a cockroach, and thrown it down before them. As soon as they have found what it was, they have sent one away for help, while the others have stayed and watched the dead body, he returned at the head of a large posse; if they have not been able to carry off the cockroach, another has been detached and sent away, who has soon returned with a full supply, sufficient to carry off their prey.'

Charitable Canary.

In the vicinity of Inverness, a goldfinch's nest, with six young ones, was taken; the pair were likewise secured, and the whole family put into a double cage, with a pair of canaries, which had a brood of young. There was a division of wirework between the cages. At first the goldfinches seemed careless about their young ones; but the canary, attracted by their cries, forced its way through a flaw in the wires, and began to feed them; an operation which it continued regularly, until the goldfinches undertook to office themselves, and rendered the human aid of the canary no longer necessary.

Ants in a Flood.

D'Azara informs us, that during the inundations of the low districts in South America, when the ant hills, which are usual

three feet in height, are completely water, the ants avail themselves of an artifice, to prevent their being to any distance from their habitation. In view, and for their greater security, collect into a compact mass, and keep close to each other, previously attaching the extremities to some neighbouring fixed point of support, leaving the mass free, and floating on the surface of water as long as the inundation, which lasts a few days, continues

Power of Memory.

A singular instance of the memory of ants, is related by M. Huber, in his 'Natural History of Bees.' He says, 'I took in the month of June an ant-hill from the woods, for the purpose of populating my large glazed apartment; but having more ants than I had room for, I gave liberty to a number in the garden of the house where I lived. They selected their abode at the foot of a chestnut tree. The former became the subject of my private observations. I noticed their proceedings for several months, without allowing them to be disturbed; at this time wishing them to be in a state of nature, I carried the hive to the garden, and placed it ten or fifteen paces from the natural ant-hill. The prisoners, by my negligence of not renewing the passage, which blockaded the passage, and ran about the environs of their new abode. The ants established near the chestnut tree, met and recognised their former companions; fell to mutual caresses; with their antennae took them up by the mandibles, and led them to their own nests; they presently in a crowd to seek the fugitives, and about the artificial ant-hill, they ventured to reach the bell glass, they effected a complete desertion, by running away successively all the ants they met. In a few days, the hive was deserted. These ants had remained four weeks without any communication.'

Pugnacity.

The town of Bindrabund in India, is in high repute with the pious Hindoos, who resort to it in the most remote parts of the empire. It is embosomed in groves of trees, and is, says Major Thorn, the residence of a considerable number of apes, whose propensity to mischief is increased by the religious respect shown to them in honour of Hanuman, a deity of the Hindoo mythology, wherein he is characterized under the form of an ape. The consequence of this degrading superstition is, that such numbers of these animals are multiplied by the voluntary contributions of the people, that no one dares to resist or ill-treat them. Hence, access to the town is prohibited; for should one of the apes take offence against any unlucky traveller, he would be assailed by the whole community, who follow him with all the missile

weapons they can collect, as pieces of bamboo, stones, and dirt, making at the same time a most hideous howling. Of the danger attending a rencontre with enemies of this description, a melancholy instance occurred in the year 1808. Two young cavalry officers, belonging to the Bengal army, having occasion to pass this way, were attacked by a body of apes, at whom one of the gentlemen inadvertently fired. The alarm instantly drew the whole body, with the fakerees, out of the place, with so much fury, that the officers, though mounted upon elephants, were compelled to seek their safety in flight; and in endeavouring to pass the Jumna, they both perished.

Another instance of the audacity of the ape in attacking the human species is related by Mollien in his 'Travels in Africa.' A woman going with millet and milk to a vessel from St. Louis, which had stopped before a village in the country of Galam, was attacked by a troop of apes, from three to four feet high; they first threw stones at her, on which she began to run away; they then ran after her, and having caught her they beat her with sticks until she let go what she was carrying. On her return to the village, she related her adventure to the principal inhabitants, who mounted their horses, and followed by their dogs, went to the place which served as a retreat to this troop of apes; they fired at them, killed ten, and wounded others, which were brought to them by the dogs; but several negroes were severely wounded in this encounter, either by the stones hurled at them by the apes, or by their bites; the females especially were most furious in revenging the death of their young ones, which they carried in their arms.

The Beaver.

So much that is wonderful has been recorded of the beaver, that several intelligent writers have not scrupled to express a belief, that it possesses but little of that surprising sagacity and skill ascribed to it. One of the latest writers on the subject, however, Mr. Joseph Sansum, of New York, gives an account of the Canadian beaver, which confirms the general character given of their habits and physical economy. He tells us, that in the deep recesses of Canadian forests, where the beaver is undisturbed by man, it is a practical example of almost every virtue, of conjugal fidelity and paternal care; laborious, thrifty, frugal, honest, watchful, and ingenious. He submits to government in the republican form, for the benefits of association; but is never known, in the most powerful communities, to make depredations upon his weaker neighbours. Wherever a number of these animals come together, they immediately combine in society, to perform the common business of constructing their habitations, apparently acting under the most intelligent design. The Indians were in the habit of prognosticating the mildness or severity of the ensuing winter, from the quantity of provisions laid in

by the beavers for their winter's stock. Though there is no appearance indicating the authority of a chief or leader, yet no contention or disagreement is ever observed among them. When a sufficient number of them are collected to form a town, the public business is first attended to; and as they are amphibious animals, provision is to be made for spending their time, occasionally both in and out of the water. In conformity to this law of their nature, they seek a situation which is adapted to both these purposes.

With this view a lake or pond, sometimes a running stream, is pitched upon. If it be a lake or pond, the water in it is always deep enough to admit of their swimming under the ice. If it be a stream, it is always such a stream as will form a pond that shall be every way convenient for their purpose; and such is their forecast, that they never fix upon a situation that will not eventually answer their views. Their next business is to construct a dam. This is always placed in the most convenient part of the stream; the form of it is either straight, rounding, or angular, as the peculiarities of the situation require; and no human ingenuity could improve their labours in these respects. The materials they use are wood and earth. They choose a tree on the river side, which will readily fall across the stream; and some of them apply themselves with diligence to cut it through with their teeth. Others cut down smaller trees, which they divide into equal and convenient lengths. Some drag these pieces to the brink of the river, and others swim with them to where the dam is forming.

As many as can find room are engaged in sinking one end of these stakes; and as many more in raising, fixing, and securing the other ends of them. Others are employed at the same time, carrying on the plastering part of the work. The earth is brought in their mouths, formed into a kind of mortar with their feet and tails, and this is spread over the intervals between the stakes, saplings, and twigs, being occasionally interwoven with the mud and slime.

Where two or three hundred beavers are united, these dams are from six to twelve feet thick at the bottom; and at the top not more than two or three. In that part of the dam which is opposed to the current, the stakes are placed obliquely; but on that side where the water is to fall over, they are placed in a perpendicular direction. These dams are sometimes a hundred feet in length, and always of the exact height which will answer their purposes. The ponds thus formed, sometimes cover five or six hundred acres. They generally spread over grounds abounding with trees and bushes of the softest wood, maple, birch, poplar, willow, &c., and, to preserve the dams against inundation, the beaver always leaves sluices near the middle, for the redundant water to pass off.

When the public works are completed, the beavers separate into small companies, to build cabins or houses for themselves. These are built upon piles, along the borders of the

pond. They are of an oval construction, resembling a bee-hive; and they vary from five to ten feet in diameter, according to the number of families they are to accommodate. These dwellings are never less than two stories high, generally three; and sometimes they contain four apartments. The walls of these are from two to three feet thick, formed of the same materials with the dams. On the inside they are made smooth, but left rough without, being rendered impenetrable to rain. The lower story is about two feet high, the second is formed by a floor of sticks covered with mud, and the upper apartment terminates with an arched roof. Through each floor there is a passage, and the uppermost floor always above the level of the water. Each of these huts has two doors, one on the land side to admit of their going out and seeking provisions that way; another under the water and below where it freezes, to preserve the communication with the pond.

No association of people can possibly appear more happy, or be better regulated than a tribe of beavers. The male and female always pair. In September, they lay their winter's stock, which consists of bark and the tender twigs of trees. Then commences the season of love and repose; and during the winter they remain within, every one enjoying the fruits of his own labour without pilfering from any other.

Towards spring, the females bring forth their young, to the number of three or four. Soon after, the male retires to gather fire-wood and vegetables, as the spring opens; but the dam remains at home, to nurse and rear up their young. The male occasionally returns home, but not to tarry, until the end of the year yet, if any injury should happen to their works, the whole society are soon collected by some unknown means, and they join all their forces to repair the injury which has been sustained.

Whenever an enemy approaches their village, the beaver who first perceives the unwelcome stranger, strikes on the water with his tail, to give notice of the approaching danger; and the whole careful tribe instantly plunge into the water.

In a state of nature, undisturbed by barbarous and selfish man, this provident animal lives fifteen or twenty years, and prepares a way for several generations, adapting his dwellings to the increase of his family.

Stupendous Ant-Hill.

The termites, or white ants, so abundant in Africa, construct their habitations of an astonishing magnitude; they frequently extend twelve feet in height, and are so firmly cemented as to bear the pressure of several men at the same time. It often happens that while a herd of wild cattle are quietly grazing below, one of their body is stationed on the hill as sentinel, to give timely notice of approaching danger. The termites begin constructing their habitations by raising, at little distance

each other, several turrets of compact in the shape of sugar loaves; upon these erect others; those in the centre run to greatest height; they afterwards cover in spaces between them, and then take down sides of all the inner turrets, leaving only a proper portion to form the cupola or dome, the use of the clay they thus procure, in the formation of the several chambers intended for magazines, nurseries, &c. The nurseries are purely composed of wooden materials, and in chambers of clay, usually half an inch wide, ranged round, and as close as possible to the royal apartment. The royal chamber, which, as well as the rest, is arched, occupies as nearly as possible the centre of the building, and is on a level with the surface of the ground; it is at first only an inch high, but increases in size with that of the queen. In this chamber the king and queen are retained close captives; it is impossible they can ever quit it, the entrance only consisting of the passing and repassing of the slaves and labourers. In an ant-hill of such a size, and where there is such an abundance of chambers to accommodate its numerous inhabitants, there must be of necessity a number of subterraneous and winding passages. These passages, which conduct to every part of the dome, are carried in a manner round the building, for the ants find it extremely difficult to ascend in a circuitous direction. Very frequently, in order to shorten the distance to the upper chambers, where they have to take the eggs, they object an arch of about ten inches in height and half an inch in breadth, groved or arched into steps on its upper surface, to afford a more easy passage. When the insects enter their nest on any expedition, they enter the covered galleries of clay, which they run to a considerable distance, and thence they continue their extensive and dreaded depredations.

Strange Mouser.

A gentleman near Exeter had in his possession, which answered the purpose of a mouse-trap, a mouse. She was constantly catching close to a corn rick, and the first time a mouse appeared, she seized it in her claws, and carried it to a meadow adjoining, where she would play with it like a young cat some time, and then kill it. She has been known to catch four or five mice a day in winter.

Call-Birds.

All-birds employed by bird-catchers find a most malicious joy in bringing their fellows into the same state of captivity. Sight and hearing infinitely excel those of the bird-catcher. The instant the wild bird is perceived, notice is given by one of the call-birds, after which follows a tumultuous ecstasy and joy. The wild bird, while the bird is at a distance, do

not sing as a bird does in a chamber; they invite the wild ones by what the bird-catchers call short jerks, which, when the birds are good, may be heard at a great distance; the effect of this call or invitation is so great that the wild bird is stopped in its course of flight, and if not already acquainted with the nets, lights boldly within twenty yards of perhaps three or four bird-catchers, which otherwise it would have noticed; nay, it frequently happens that if half a flock only are caught, the remaining half will immediately afterwards light in the nets, and share the same fate; and should only one bird escape, that bird will suffer itself to be pulled at till it is caught: such is the fascinating influence of the call-birds.

The Puffin.

The courage and industry of the puffin in rearing and preserving its young is almost incredible, and few birds or beasts will venture to attack it in its retreats, which are winding burrows in the earth, eight or ten feet deep. When the great sea raven approaches, the puffin catches him under the throat with his beak, sticks his claws into his breast, and in vain the tortured animal attempts to get away, for the little bird sticks close to the invader, nor lets go his hold till they both come to the sea, where they drop down together, and the raven is generally drowned.

The Ant Lion.

There are some animals that, from living almost entirely on ants, have obtained the name of ant-eaters. The woodpecker often makes an abundant repast on them; it catches them by means of its glutinous tongue. But the most ingenious contrivance to entrap ants (says Dr. Johnson, the translator of Huber's work), is that practised by a little insect termed the ant-lion. This insect, in its larva state, can walk no other way than backward; it is therefore evident that its prey must come immediately within its reach, since it is unprovided with the means of advancing to secure it. To effect this, it forms a conical cavity or about two inches in depth, in a loose dry sandy soil. It commences its operations by describing a circle in the sand; it then takes its station within, and moving in a retrograde direction, shovels up the sand with its fore feet on the back part of its head, which is flat and square, from which, by a sudden jerk, it is projected to the distance of several inches. As its work proceeds, it describes smaller circles within the first, until they are reduced to almost a mere point. On its meeting any impediment to its labours, such as small stones, it places them one by one on its head, and if possible jerks them beyond the mouth of the pit; failing of this, it endeavours to deposit its load at the entrance of its cavern, by mounting backward with cautious steps. Its residence being finished, it occupies the lower part, concealing its body by a coating

of sand. Here it quietly remains until some stray ant, passing this way, and venturing to cross the sides of the pit, is carried by the sliding sand within the grasp of the oppressor. It sometimes happens that the ant, on perceiving its danger, endeavours to scramble up the embankment; but our wary friend, unwilling to be deprived of his long-expected meal, shakes off his usual inactivity, and by a timely shower of sand, seldom fails of bringing down his victim.

Envy.

Three birds had built their nests almost contiguous to each other. A swallow had erected hers in one corner of the piazza of a house, a phebe in the opposite corner, and a wren possessed a little box which had been made on purpose, and hung between. All these birds were quite tame. The wren began at last to show signs of dislike to the box which had been given to it, though it was not known on what account. At length it resolved, small as it was, to drive the swallow from its nest, and take possession of it, and, astonishing to say, it succeeded. 'Impudence,' says Mr. St. John, who tells the story, 'gets the better of modesty; and this exploit was no sooner performed than the wren removed every material to its own box with the most admirable dexterity. The signs of triumph appeared very visible; it fluttered with its wings with uncommon velocity, and an universal joy was perceivable in all its movements. The peaceable swallow, like the passive Quaker, meekly sat at a small distance, and never offered the least opposition. But no sooner was the plunder carried away than the injured bird went to work with unabated ardour, and in a few days the depredations were repaired.'

For the honour of the wren species, it deserves to be noticed that there seems some doubt whether this envious spoiler was really a wren. Mr. St. John is supposed to have confounded it with the common creeper.

Migration of the Swallow.

The mystery which attends the retreat of the swallows from our northern climates during winter is one which promises little hope of ever being solved. To whatever clime or part of the world they proceed, their flight is at an elevation far beyond the reach of human optics. With the first ray of the morning they depart so directly upwards as to elude all research; and with the first dawn of day they return, but whence, no man can tell: they drop as from the clouds, and take up their abode in their former haunts as if they had just left them the hour before.

The preparation for their annual flight is marked by some interesting circumstances. After the swallows have got their second brood, which is generally about the middle of September, they devote the whole of the re-

maining time to training the young for their ultimate flight. The regularity and order with which this is done is extraordinary. After the business of the food gathering is over, they assemble in multitudes from all quarters in one general convention, on the roof of some building, or on some large tree. While the assembly are seated together, one who seems commander-in-chief keeps aloft on the wing, flying round and round; at last darting upwards with great swiftmess, with a loud, sharp, and repeated call, he seems as if he gave the word of command; instantly the whole flock are on the wing, rising upwards in the most beautiful spiral track, till they attain regions beyond the reach of human view. They remain in the upper regions of the atmosphere from a quarter to half an hour, when they all return by scores and dozens to the place whence they took the flight. This manœuvre they will repeat twice or three times in the evening, when the weather is fair; and after ten or twelve days of such practising they take their final departure for the season.

The theory of their submerging during winter is now, we believe, generally regarded as all a dream. It has arisen, apparently, from an optical illusion which is very well explained in the following anecdote, related by Mr. Gavin Inglis ('Phil. Mag.' vol. lii., 'On the 11th of April, 1812, returning from Glasgow with a friend, we stopped at Kinross to corn our horses, and take a parting dinner. Before dinner was ready, we took a turn down to the old chapel; and returning by the loch (lake) side, we both expressed our astonishment at the vast assemblage of swallows, the first we had seen that season, hovering over the surface of a corner of the lake. "What," said my companion, "can the creatures have emerged from the water? Some people assert that they hybernate at the bottom of lakes and rivers. It must be so: see, there is one just risen." To a superficial observer they had certainly all the appearance of just emerging from the bottom of the lake. But looking attentively, we perceived them regularly descending in a slanting direction, and take something from the surface of the water, in which exercise they always in skimming struck the water with their breast, dashing a spray around them which looked very much like to shaking the water from their wings. This I have since observed a thousand times in the swallow skimming the river or mill-dam, catching the water flies, but which persons not interesting themselves in the result, and at some little distance from the scene of action, is certainly very delusive; and without a close inspection, apt to leave the impression of their emerging from the water upon the mind. The weather was still cold, and not a fly abroad in the air to support them; no doubt remained with us of their thus gathering food; an idea in which we were soon strengthened by stepping down to the edge of the lake, when we saw the surface of the water all along the shore, and as far as the eye could reach, swarming with insects.

rance like gross gunpowder, and the self filled with the maggot of a water- which there can be no doubt what- birds were feeding.'

similar occurrences had doubtless th to the theory of submerging ; and nes Barrington and others who so ly assert that they have seen them own eyes rising out of lakes and d shaking the water from their wings, ve been deceived with their eyes

tells us that a shoemaker in Basle, o obtain a solution of this singular put a collar on a swallow, contain- scription to this effect :

ty swallow, tell me whither goest thou in winter?

ensuing spring he received by the rier the following answer :

Anthony of Athens.—Why dost thou inquire?

ing the story to be true, it is pretty hat the answer must have been the some wag much nearer than Athens, Belon and Aristotle assure us, that he swallows live half the year in hey always pass the winter in Africa. answer to the son of St. Crispin ve been, '*Ne sutor ultra crepidam*;' y future edition of Buffon the story t lose anything by substituting this *il fact*.

Talking Politics.

quotes a letter from a person, as he credit, in which there is a strange wo nightingales belonging to an inn- Ratisbon, having been so infected ort of conversation indulged in by ers or deputies of the diet, who fre- he tavern—nay, so wonderfully edi- , that they used to spend the whole discursing on the political interests e! This is very ridiculous ; but not han the story to which no less a ter than Pliny has given the sanction hority, of the two sons of the Em- udius having given some nightingales al an education, that they could th Greek and Latin fluently, and y invent some new expressions of

ibles only deserve mention, to show : even instinct, in its humble way, is rom misrepresentation, and how little vails to prevent very wise men from : times as if they were without it.

Carrier's Dog.

er on his way to Dumfries had occa- t some houses by the road side, in of his business, leaving his cart and n the public road, under the protec- p-enger and a trusty dog. Upon

his return he missed a led horse, belonging to a gentleman in the neighbourhood, which he had tied to the end of the cart, and likewise one of the female passengers. On inquiry he was informed that during his absence the female, who had been anxious to try the mettle of the pony, had mounted it, and that the animal had set off at full speed. The carrier expressed much anxiety for the safety of the young woman, casting at the same time an expressive look at his dog. Oscar observed his master's eye, and aware of its meaning, instantly set off in pursuit of the pony, which he came up with soon after he had passed the first toll-bar on the Dalbeattie road, when he made a sudden spring, seized the bridle, and held the animal fast. Several people having observed the circumstance, and the perilous situation of the girl, came to relieve her. Oscar, however, notwithstanding their repeated endeavours, would not quit his hold, and the pony was actually led into the stable with the dog, till such time as the carrier should arrive. Upon the carrier entering the stable, Oscar wagged his tail in token of satisfaction, and immediately relinquished the bridle to his master.

Stratagem.

The bears in Kamschatka have recourse to a singular stratagem in order to catch the bareins, which are much too swift of foot for them. These animals keep together in large herds ; they frequent mostly the low grounds, and love to browse at the feet of rocks and precipices. The bear hunts them by scent till he comes in sight, when he advances warily, keeping above them, and concealing himself among the rocks, as he makes his approaches, till he gets immediately over them, and near enough for his purpose. He then begins to push down with his paws pieces of rock among the herd below. This manœuvre is not followed by any attempt to pursue, until he finds he has maimed one of the flock, upon which a course immediately ensues, that proves successful or otherwise, according to the hurt the barein has received.

Humane Society.

Dr. Percival, in his 'Dissertations,' mentions the following singular and affecting instance of that sagacity and social feeling, by which the race of rooks is characterized :—'A large colony of rooks had subsisted many years in a grove on the banks of the river Irwell, near Manchester. One serene evening I placed myself within view of it, and marked with attention the various labours, pastimes, and evolutions of this crowded society. The idle members amused themselves with chasing each other through endless mazes ; and in their flight they made the air sound with an infinitude of discordant noises. In the midst of these playful exertions it unfortunately happened that one rook, by a sudden turn, struck his beak against the wing of another,

The sufferer instantly fell into the river. A general cry of distress ensued. The birds hovered with every expression of anxiety over their distressed companion.

'Animated by their sympathy, and perhaps by the language of counsel known to themselves, he sprang into the air, and by one strong effort reached the point of a rock which projected into the river. The joy became loud and universal; but, alas! it was soon changed into notes of lamentation, for the poor wounded bird, in attempting to fly towards his nest, dropped again into the river and was drowned, amid the moans of his whole fraternity.'

Fox Chasing.

During a fox hunt in Lanarkshire, Reynard being hard pressed, was reduced to the necessity of taking refuge up a chimney of one of the hot-houses in Hamilton Castle. He was followed by one of the hounds, who, passing through a flue upwards of fifty feet in length, came out at the top of the chimney, but missed Reynard in his murky recess. By this time a number of people were collected at the top of the chimney, who let down a terrier, who soon made him come in view, holding fast by his brush.

'One Swallow does not make Summer.'

The frequent appearance of single swallows on the verge of summer, many days before the general arrival of the tribe, has given rise to the common proverb, that 'one swallow never made summer.' They seem as if, like Noah's dove, they were despatched from the main body to spy and report on the appearance of the earth, or to find the longitude or latitude of their flight. A diligent observer of nature assures us, that the first of these scouts who arrives at the old haunt of a colony will remain, as it were, to take and keep possession; and that a second and third will arrive, but after a short time will go away again, doubtless to convey intelligence to the main body of the state in which matters are, before they attempt their general migration.

Murder Prevented.

In a village, situated between Caen and Vire, on the borders of the district called the Grove, there dwelt, says M. Huet, Bishop of Avranches, a peasant of a surly untoward temper, who frequently beat and abused his wife, insomuch that the neighbours were sometimes obliged by her outcries to interpose, in order to prevent further mischief. At length, weary of living with one whom he hated, he resolved to make away with her. He pretended to be reconciled, altered his conduct, and on holidays invited her to walk out with him. One evening in summer, after a very hot day, he carried her to cool and repose her-

self on the borders of a spring, in a shady and solitary place. He affected to be very thirsty, and the clearness of the water tempted both of them to drink; but as soon as he saw his wife laying down and drinking, he threw himself upon her, and plunged her head into the water in order to drown her. She struggled hard, but could not have saved herself, had it not been for the assistance of a dog who used to follow her, and never left her company. He immediately flew upon the husband, seized him by the throat, made him quit his hold, and thus saved the life of his mistress.

Escape of Jengis Khan.

The Mogul and Kalmuc Tartars attribute to the white owl, the preservation of Jengis Khan, the founder of their empire; and they pay it on that account almost divine honours. The prince, with a small army, happened to be surprised and put to flight by his enemies. Forced to seek concealment in a coppice, an owl settled on the bush under which he was hid. At the sight of this animal the prince's pursuers never thought of searching the spot, conceiving it impossible that such a bird would perch where any human being was concealed. Jengis escaped, and ever after his countrymen held the white owl sacred, and every one wore a plume of its feathers on his head. The Kalmucs continue the custom to this day, at all their great festivals; and some tribes have an idol in the form of an owl, to which they fasten the real legs of this bird.

Dinner Bell.

It is customary in large boarding houses to announce the dinner hour by the sound of a bell. A cat belonging to one of these houses always hastened to the hall on hearing the bell, to get its accustomed meal; but it happened one day that she was shut up in a chamber, and it was in vain for her that the bell had sounded. Some hours after, having been emancipated from her confinement, she hastened to the hall, but found nothing left for her. The cat thus disappointed got to the bell, and sounding it, endeavoured to summon the family to a second dinner, in which she doubted not to participate.

The Secretary Falcon.

M. le Vaillant gives an account of a remarkable engagement of which he was a witness, between the secretary falcon and a serpent. The serpent is the chief enemy of the falcon in all the countries which it inhabits, and the mode in which it wages war against it is very peculiar. When the falcon approaches a serpent, it always carries the point of one of its wings forward, in order to parry off its venomous bites; sometimes it finds an opportunity of spurning and treading upon its antagonist; or else, of taking him upon its pinions, and

throwing him into the air. When by this system it has, at length, wearied out its adversary, and rendered him almost senseless, it kills and swallows him at leisure. On the occasion which Vaillant mentions, the battle was obstinate, and conducted with equal address on both sides. The serpent, feeling at last his inferiority, endeavoured to regain his hole; while the bird apparently guessing his design, stopped him on a sudden, and cut off his retreat by placing herself before him at a single leap. On whatever side the reptile endeavoured to make his escape, the enemy still appeared before him. Rendered desperate, the serpent resolved on a last effort. He erected himself boldly to intimidate the bird, and hissing dreadfully, displayed his menacing throat, inflamed eyes, and a head swollen with rage and venom. The falcon seemed intimidated for a moment, but soon returned to the charge; and covering her body with one of her wings as a buckler, struck her enemy with the bony protuberance of the other. M. Vaillant saw the serpent at last stagger and fall; the conqueror then fell upon him to despatch him, and with one stroke of her beak laid open his skull.

Wasp Hatching.

The wasp, during its existence as a perfect insect, attaches itself to flowers; when it is ready to lay its eggs, it digs a cylindrical hole in a clayey sand, and deposits an egg at the bottom; it then goes among some cabbages, and seizes upon a small green caterpillar which it had never before made its prey. This caterpillar the wasp pricks with its sting, so as to weaken it, in order that it may not make any resistance against the worm which is about to issue from the egg, and devour it; it then rolls it up into a circular form, and places it at the bottom of the hole: the wasp then proceeds to fetch eleven similar caterpillars successively, which it treats in the same manner; it then closes up the hole, and dies. The small worm is now hatched; it devours the twelve caterpillars in succession, and then metamorphoses itself into a wasp, which leaves its subterraneous apartment, and flies about among the flowers.

The Battle Foundling.

The Marquess of Worcester has a poodle dog which was taken from the grave of his master, a French officer who fell at the battle of Salamanca, and was buried on the spot. This dog had remained on the grave until he was nearly starved; and even then was removed with difficulty; so faithful was he to the remains of him he had tenderly loved.

Mountain Sheep.

In the mountainous parts of Scotland and Wales, where the liberty the sheep enjoy renders them very wild, they exhibit a remarkable deviation from their generally timorous

habit. A ram, or a wether, will often attack a single dog, and come off victorious; and where the danger is beyond the power of one individual to repel, recourse is had to the collective force of the whole flock. On such occasions they have been seen forming themselves into a close compact body, with the females and young in the centre, whilst the males took the foremost ranks. Presenting thus an armed front on all sides, they wait with firmness the approach of the enemy; nor does their courage fail them in the moment of attack; for when the aggressor advances within a few yards of the line, the rams dart upon him with such impetuosity as to lay him dead at their feet, unless he saves himself by flight. Against the attacks of single dogs or foxes, when in this situation, they are perfectly secure.

False Alarm.

A few years ago, a Mr. Rutter doing duty at the castle of Cape Town, kept a tame baboon for his amusement. One evening it broke its chains unknown to him. In the night, climbing up into the belfry, it began to play with, and ring the bell. Immediately the whole place was in an uproar; some great danger was apprehended. Many thought that the castle was on fire; others, that an enemy had entered the bay, and the soldiers began actually to turn out, when it was discovered that the baboon had occasioned the disturbance. On the following morning a court-martial was held, when Cape justice dictated, that whereas Master Rutter's baboon had unnecessarily put the castle into alarm, the master should receive fifty lashes; Mr. R., however, found means to evade the punishment.

Union of Labour.

A swallow's nest, built in the west corner of a window facing the north, was so much softened by rain beating against it, as to render it unfit to support the weight of a superincumbent load of five well-grown young swallows; during a violent storm the nest fell into the corner below, leaving the young brood exposed to all the fury of the blast. To save the poor creatures from an untimely death, the owner of the house benevolently caused a covering to be thrown over them, till the severity of the storm abated. No sooner had it subsided, than the sages of the colony assembled, fluttering round the window, and hovering over the temporary covering of the fallen nest. As soon as this careful anxiety was observed, the covering was removed, and the utmost joy evinced by the group on finding the young ones alive and unhurt. After feeding them, the members of this assembled community arranged themselves into working order. Each division taking its appropriate station, fell instantly to work, and before night-fall they had jointly completed an

arched canopy over the young brood in the corner where they lay, and securely covered them against a succeeding blast. Calculating the time occupied by them in performing this piece of architecture, it appeared evident that the young must have perished from cold or hunger before any single pair could have executed half the job.

Sagacious Bruin.

The captain of a Greenland whaler being anxious to procure a bear, without wounding the skin, made trial of the stratagem of laying the noose of a rope in the snow, and placing a piece of kreng within it. A bear ranging the neighbouring ice, was soon enticed to the spot by the smell of burning meat. He perceived the bait, approached, and seized it in his mouth; but his foot at the same time, by a jerk of the rope, being entangled in the noose, he pushed it off with his paw, and deliberately retired. After having eaten the piece he had carried away with him, he returned. The noose, with another piece of kreng, being replaced, he pushed the rope aside, and again walked triumphantly off with the kreng. A third time the noose was laid; but excited to caution by the evident observations of the bear, the sailors buried the rope beneath the snow, and laid the bait in a deep hole dug in the centre. The bear once more approached, and the sailors were assured of their success. But bruin, more sagacious than they expected, after snuffing about the place for a few moments, scraped the snow away with his paw, threw the rope aside, and again escaped unhurt with his prize.

Battles of the Ants.

‘Thus in battalia march embody’d ants.’

DRYDEN.

The wars entered into by ants of different size, bear no resemblance to those in which they combat with an equal force. When the large ants attack the small, they appear to do it by surprise; but when the small ants have time to guard against an attack, they intimate to their companions the danger with which they are threatened, when the latter arrive in crowds to their assistance. I have (says M. Huber) witnessed a battle between the herculean and sanguine ants; the herculean ants quitted the trunk of the tree in which they had established their abode, and reached the very gates of the dwelling of the sanguine ants; the latter, only half the size of their adversaries, had the advantage in point of number; they however acted on the defensive. The earth, strewed with the dead bodies of their compatriots, bore witness that they had suffered the greatest carnage; they therefore took the prudent part of fixing their habitations elsewhere and with great activity transported to a distance of fifty feet from the spot, their companions and the several objects that interested them. Small detachments of

the workers were posted at little distances from the nest, apparently placed there to cover the march of the recruits, and to preserve the city itself from any sudden attack. They struck against each other when they met, and had always their mandibles separated in the attitude of defiance. As soon as the herculean ants approached their camp, the sentinels in front assailed them with fury; they fought at first in single combat. The sanguine ant threw himself upon the herculean ant, fastened on his head, and inundated it with venom. It sometimes quitted its antagonist with great quickness; more frequently, however, the herculean ant held between its feet its audacious enemy. The two champions then rolled themselves up in the dust, and struggled violently. The advantage was at first in favour of the largest ant; but its adversary was soon assisted by those of its own party, who collected round the herculean ant, and inflicted several deep wounds with their teeth. The herculean ant yielded to numbers; it either perished the victim of its temerity, or was conducted a prisoner to the enemy’s camp.

Such are the combats between ants of different size; but if we wish to behold regular armies wage war in all its forms, we must visit those forests in which the fallow ants establish their dominion over every insect in their territory. It is in these forests (continues the same author) I have witnessed the inhabitants of two large ant-hills, engaged in spirited combat. They were composed of ants of the same species, alike in their extent and population, and were situated about a hundred paces, distance from each other. Two empires could not possess a greater number of combatants.

This prodigious crowd of insects covered the ground lying between the two ant-hills, and occupying a space of two feet in breadth. Both armies met at half way from their respective habitations, and there the battle commenced. Thousands of ants took their station upon the highest ground, and fought in pairs, keeping firm hold of their antagonists; a considerable number were engaged in the attack, and others in leading away prisoners. The latter made several ineffectual efforts to escape, as if aware that, upon their arrival, they would experience a cruel death. The scene of warfare occupied the space of about three feet square. Those ants composing groups and chains, took hold of each other’s legs and pincers, and dragged their antagonists to the ground. These groups formed successively. The fight usually commenced by two ants, who seized each other by the mandibles. They were frequently so closely wedged together, that they fell upon their sides, and fought a long time in that situation in the dust, until a third came to decide the contest. It more commonly happened that both ants received assistance at the same time, when the whole four made ineffectual attempts to gain the battle. Ants of both parties joined them; and it was in this way they formed chains of six, eight, or ten ants, all

firmly locked together ; the equilibrium was only broken when several warriors from the same republic advanced at the same time, who compelled those that were enchained to let go their hold, when the single combats again took place.

On the approach of night, each party returned gradually to the city, which served it for an asylum. The ants, which were either killed or led away into captivity, not being replaced by others, the number of combatants diminished until their force was exhausted.

The ants returned to the field of battle before dawn. The groups again formed ; the carnage recommenced with greater fury than on the preceding evening, and the scene of combat occupied a space of six feet in length, by two feet in breadth. Success was for a long time doubtful ; about mid-day the contending armies had removed to the distance of a dozen feet from one of their cities. The ants fought so desperately, that nothing could withdraw them from their enterprise ; they seemed absorbed in one single object, that of finding an enemy to contend with.

These wars offer something very surprising ; the instinct which enables each ant to know his own party, even in the midst of the battle's rage. They sometimes attack those of their own party ; but on recognising them, immediately relax their hold, and caress each other.

The common operations of the two colonies were not suspended during this warfare ; the paths which led to a distance in the forest, were as much crowded as in time of peace, and all around the ant-hill order and tranquillity prevailed, with the exception only of that side on which the battle was raging. A crowd of these insects were constantly to be seen setting off for the scene of combat, while others were returning with their prisoners. This war terminated without any disastrous results to the two republics ; long continued rains shortened its duration, and the warriors ceased to frequent the road which led to the camp of the enemy.

Whale Fishing.

The maternal affection of the whale, which in other respects is apparently a stupid animal, is striking and interesting. The cub being insensible to danger is easily harpooned, when the tender affection of the mother is so manifested, as not unfrequently to bring it within reach of the whalers. Hence, though a cub is of little value, yet it is sometimes struck as a snare for its mother. In this case she joins it at the surface of the water, whenever it has occasion to rise for respiration ; encourages it to swim away ; assists its flight by taking it under her fin ; and seldom deserts it while life remains. She is then dangerous to approach, but affords frequent opportunities for attack. She loses all regard for her own safety, in anxiety for the preservation of her young ; dashes through the midst of her enemies ; de-

spises the danger that threatens her, and even voluntarily remains with her offspring after various attacks have been made upon herself. In the whale fishery of 1814, a harpooner struck a young whale with the hope of its leading to the mother. Presently she arose, and seizing the young one, dragged about a hundred fathoms of line out of the boat, with remarkable force and velocity. Again she rose to the surface ; darted furiously to and fro ; frequently stopped short, or suddenly changed her direction, and gave every possible intimation of extreme agony. For a length of time she continued thus to act, though closely pursued by the boats ; and inspired with courage and resolution by her concern for her offspring, seemed regardless of the danger that surrounded her. Being at length struck with six harpoons, she was killed.

Refugee Squirrel.

In the year 1814, a squirrel was caught in Ledstone Park, near Ferry Bridge, and lodged for safe custody in a trap used for taking rats alive. Here he remained for several weeks, till at length, panting for liberty, he contrived to make his escape through a window, and repaired once more to his native fields. The family in which he had been a sportive inmate, were not a little vexed at the loss of their little favourite, and the servant was ordered in the evening of the same day to remove the trap, that they might no longer be reminded of their loss ; but on proceeding to discharge his duty, he found to his surprise that the squirrel, all wet and ruffled by the storm, had reassumed his station, and again taken up his lodgings in a corner of the trap.

Bears in Jeopardy.

A Greenland bear, with two cubs under its protection, was pursued across a field of ice by a party of armed sailors. At first she seemed to urge the young ones to an increase of speed, by running before them, turning round and manifesting by a peculiar action and voice, her anxiety for their progress ; but finding her pursuers gaining upon them, she carried, or pushed, or pitched them alternately forward, until she effected their escape. In throwing them before her, the little creatures are said to have placed themselves across her path to receive the impulse, and when projected some yards in advance, they ran onwards until she overtook them, when they alternately adjusted themselves for another throw.

Leap-Frog.

The American Indians are known to be excellent runners, being almost able to match the swiftest horses. The bull-frog of American swamps is also well known for its surprising power of leaping, often compassing three yards at one leap. In order to make a trial of its powers, some Swedes laid a wager with

a young Indian, that he could not overtake a full-grown bull-frog, provided it had two leaps in advance. They caught one in a pond, and carried it into a field at some distance, where applying a burning faggot to its tail, the irritated animal bounded across the field towards the pond as fast as it could, the Indian following with all his might. The race was however no match; the frog had regained the pond before the Indian was within many yards of it.

Retaliation.

A wild stork was brought by a farmer in the neighbourhood of Hamburg, into his poultry yard, to be the companion of a tame one, which he had long kept there; but the tame stork disliking a rival, fell upon the poor stranger, and beat him so unmercifully that he was compelled to take wing, and with some difficulty escaped. About four months afterwards, however, he returned to the poultry yard, recovered of his wounds, and attended by three other storks, who no sooner alighted, than they all together fell upon the same stork, and killed him.

Newsman Extraordinary.

One of the carriers of a New York paper called the *Advocate*, having become indisposed, his son took his place; but not knowing the subscribers he was to supply, he took for his guide a dog which had usually attended his father. The animal trotted on, a-head of the boy, and stopped at every door where the paper was in use to be left, without making a single omission or mistake.

Bear Cubs.

In the month of June, 1812, a female bear, with two cubs, approached near a whaler, and was shot. The cubs not attempting to escape, were taken alive. These animals, though at first evidently very unhappy, became at length in some measure reconciled to their situation, and being tolerably tame, were allowed occasionally to go at large about the deck. While the ship was moored to a floe, a few days after they were taken, one of them having a rope fastened round his neck, was thrown overboard. It immediately swam to the ice, got upon it, and attempted to escape. Finding itself however detained by the rope, it endeavoured to disengage itself in the following ingenious way. Near the edge of the floe was a crack in the ice of considerable length, but only eighteen inches or two feet wide, and three or four feet deep. To this spot the bear turned; and when on crossing the chasm, the bight of the rope fell into it, he placed himself across the opening; then suspending himself by his hind feet, with a leg on each side, he dropped his head and most part of his body into the chasm; and with a foot applied to each side of the neck, attempted for some

minutes to push the rope over his head. Finding this scheme ineffectual, he removed to the main ice, and running with great impetuosity from the ship, gave a remarkable pull on the rope; then going backward a few steps, he repeated the jerk. At length, after repeated attempts to escape this way, every failure of which he announced by a significant growl, he yielded himself to his hard necessity, and lay down on the ice in angry and sullen silence.

Noble Perseverance.

Elephants were, of old, employed in India in the launching of ships. Ludolph relates, that one being directed to force a very large vessel into the water, the work proved superior to its strength; his master, with sarcastic tone, bid the keeper take away the lazy beast, and bring another: the poor animal instantly repeated his efforts, fractured his skull, and died on the spot.

The Catcher Caught.

During a sudden inundation of the Rhine, a hare unable to escape through the water to an eminence, climbed up a tree. One of the boatmen rowing about to assist the unfortunate inhabitants observing puss, rowed up to the tree, and mounted it, eager for the game, without properly fastening his boat. The terrified hare, on the approach of its pursuer, sprang from the branch into the boat, which thus set in motion floated away, leaving its owner in the tree in dread of being washed away by the current. After several hours' anxiety, he was perceived, and taken off by some of his companions.

Ostrich Riding.

Mr. Adanson, in his 'Voyage to Senegal,' &c., mentions, that during the time of his residence at Podor, a French factory on the banks of the river Niger, there were two ostriches, though young, of gigantic size, which afforded him a very remarkable sight. 'They were,' he says, 'so tame, that two little blacks mounted both together on the back of the largest. No sooner did he feel their weight, than he began to run as fast as possible, and carried them several times round the village, as it was impossible to stop him otherwise than by obstructing the passage. This sight pleased me so much, that I wished it to be repeated, and to try their strength, directed a full grown negro to mount the smallest, and two others the largest. This burthen did not seem at all disproportionate to their strength. At first they went at a tolerably sharp trot, but when they became heated a little, they expanded their wings as though to catch the wind, and moved with such fleetness, that they scarcely seemed to touch the ground. Most people have one time or other seen a partridge run; and consequently know that

There is no man whatever able to keep up with it; and it is easy to imagine, that if this bird had a longer step, its speed would be considerably augmented. The ostrich moves like the partridge, with this advantage; and I am satisfied that those I am speaking of, would have distanced the fleetest race horses that were ever bred in England. It is true they could not hold out so long as a horse; but they could undoubtedly go over a given space in less time. I have frequently beheld this bird, which is capable of giving one an idea of the prodigious strength of an ostrich, and shewing what use it might be of, had we but the method of breaking and managing it as we do a horse.

Studying.

Plutarch tells us of a magpie belonging to a barber at Rome, which could imitate to a fault almost every word it heard. Some trumpets happened one day to be sounded before the shop, and for a day or two afterwards the magpie was quite mute, and seemed ensive and melancholy. All who knew it were greatly surprised at its silence; and it was supposed that the sound of the trumpets had so stunned it, as to deprive it at once of both voice and hearing. It soon appeared, however, that this was far from being the case; for, says Plutarch, the bird had been all its time occupied in profound meditation, studying how to imitate the sound of the trumpets; and when at last master of it, the magpie, to the astonishment of all its friends, suddenly broke its long silence, by a perfect imitation of the flourish of trumpets it had heard; observing with the greatest exactness all the repetitions, stops, and changes. The acquisition of this lesson had however exhausted the whole of the magpie's stock of intellect; for it made it forget everything it had learned before.

Faithful Companion.

Mr. Isaac Hall, gardener at Lenton Abbey, near Nottingham, in removing some rubbish, discovered two ground toads of an uncommon size, weighing no less than seven pound. On finding them, he was surprised to see, that one of them got upon the back of the other, and both proceeded to move slowly on the ground towards a place of retreat; upon further examination he found, that the one on the back of the other had received a severe laceration from his spade, and was rendered unable to get away, without the assistance of his companion!

Mother Watching her Young.

Abbé de la Pluche, in his 'Spectacle de la nature,' has the following singular instance of the far-sighted watchfulness of the turkey-hen over her young. 'I have heard,' he says, 'a turkey-hen, when at the head of her brood,

send forth the most hideous scream, without being able to perceive the cause; her young ones, however, immediately when the warning was given, skulked under the bushes, the grass, or whatever else seemed to offer shelter or protection. They even stretched themselves at full length on the ground, and continued motionless, as if dead. In the meantime, the mother with her eyes directed upwards, continued her cries and screaming as before. On looking up in the direction in which she seemed to gaze, I discovered a black spot just under the clouds, but was unable at first to determine what it was; however, it soon appeared to be a bird of prey, though at first at too great a distance to be distinguished. I have seen one of these animals continue in this agitated state, and her whole brood pinned down, as it were, to the ground for four hours together; whilst their formidable foe has taken its circuits, has mounted and hovered directly over their heads; at last, upon his disappearing, the parent changed her note, and sent forth another cry, which in an instant gave life to the whole trembling tribe, and they all flocked round her with expressions of pleasure, as if conscious of their happy escape from danger.'

Quail Fighting.

The ancient Greeks and Romans used to make quails fight with each other in the same manner as the moderns do game cocks. The quail is an animal of undaunted courage, and will perish rather than yield. In the time of Augustus, there was one which had acquired such celebrity for its victories, that a certain Prefect of Egypt thought he could not pay the emperor a higher compliment, than by serving it up at his table. Augustus, incensed at seeing so noble an animal put to so base a use, repaid the servility of the prefect by ordering him to be put to death.

The fighting of quails is even at present a fashionable diversion in China, and in some parts of Italy.

Venturing to Sea.

In the 1798, a covey of partridges having been disturbed by some men at plough, near East Dean, in Sussex, took their flight across the cliff to the sea, over which they continued their course about three hundred yards. Either intimidated or otherwise affected by that element, the whole were then observed to drop into the water. Twelve of them were soon afterwards floated by the tide to the shore, where they were picked up by a boy, who carried them to Eastbourne and sold them.

Deceiving the Fowler.

Mr. Markwick relates, that 'as he was once hunting with a young pointer, the dog ran on a brood of very small partridges. The old

bird cried, fluttered, and ran trembling along just before the dog's nose, till she had drawn him to a considerable distance; when she took wing and flew farther off, but not out of the field. On this the dog returned nearly to the place where the young ones lay concealed in the grass; which the old bird no sooner perceived, than she flew back again, settled first before the dog's nose, and a second time acted the same part, rolling and tumbling about till she drew off his attention from the brood, and thus succeeded in preserving them.'

A Hanger-On.

The trumpeter bird, in its tame state, has a habit of following persons through the streets and out of town, even those whom it has never seen before. It is difficult to get rid of it: if a person enters a house, it will wait his return and again join him, though after an interval of some hours. M. de la Borde says, that he has sometimes betaken himself to his heels to get rid of them, but to no purpose. They sped faster than he could, and always got before him; when he stopped, they stopped also; wherever he moved, they were at his elbow. He says he knew one that invariably followed all the strangers who entered its master's house, accompanied them into the garden, took as many turns there as they did, and attended them back again.

The Stray Sheep.

'I once witnessed,' says the Ettrick Shepherd, 'a very singular feat performed by a dog belonging to John Graham, late tenant in Ashiesteel. A neighbour came to his house after it was dark, and told him that he had lost a sheep on his farm, and that if he (Graham) did not secure her in the morning early, she would be lost, as he had brought her far. John said he could not possibly get to the hill next morning, but if he would take him to the very spot where he lost the sheep, perhaps his dog Chieftain would find her that night. On that they went away with all expedition, lest the traces of the feet should cool; and I, then a boy, being in the house, went with them. The night was pitch dark, which had been the cause of the man losing his ewe, and at length he pointed out a place to John by the side of the water where he had lost her. 'Chieftain! fetch that,' said John; 'bring her back, sir.' The dog jumped around and around, and reared himself upon an end; but not being able to see anything, evidently misapprehended his master, on which John fell to scolding his dog, calling it a great many hard names. He at last told the man that he must point out *the very track* that the sheep went, otherwise he had no chance of recovering it. The man led him to a grey stone, and said he was sure she took the brae (hill side) within a yard of that. 'Chieftain; come hither to my foot, you great numb'd whelp,' said John. Chieftain came, John pointed with his

finger to the ground. 'Fetch that, I say, sir—bring that back, away.' The dog scented slowly about on the ground for some seconds; but soon began to mend his pace, and vanished in the darkness. 'Bring her back, away, you great calf!' vociferated John, with a voice of exultation, as the dog broke to the hill. And as all these good dogs perform their work in perfect silence, we neither saw nor heard any more of him for a long time. I think, if I remember right, we waited there about half an hour; during which time all the conversation was about the small chance which the dog had to find the ewe, for it was agreed on all hands, that she must long ago have mixed with the rest of the sheep on the farm. How that was, no man will ever be able to decide. John, however, still persisted in waiting until his dog came back, either with the ewe or without her; and at last the trusty animal brought the individual lost sheep to our very feet, which the man took on his back, and went on his way rejoicing.'

Old Habits.

Between the years 1750 and 1760, a Scottish lawyer of eminence made a journey to London. At that period such journeys were usually performed on horseback, and the traveller might either ride post, or if willing to travel economically, he bought a horse, and sold him at the end of his journey. The gentleman of whom we speak, who was a good judge of horses, as well as a good horseman, had chosen the latter mode of travelling, and had sold the horse on which he rode from Scotland as soon as he arrived in London. With a view to his return, he went to Smithfield to purchase a horse. About dusk, a handsome horse was offered to him at so cheap a rate, that he was led to suspect the animal to be unsound; but as he could discover no blemish he became the purchaser. Next morning he set out on his journey; his horse had excellent paces, and the first few miles, while the road was well frequented, our traveller spent in congratulating himself on his good fortune. On Finchley Common, and at a place where the road run down a slight ascent, and up another, the traveller met a clergyman driving a one-horse chaise. There was nobody within sight, and the horse by his manœuvre plainly intimated what had been the profession of his former master. Instead of passing the chaise, he laid his counter close up to it, and stopt it, having no doubt that his rider would embrace so fair an opportunity of exercising his vocation. The clergyman, under the same mistake, produced his purse unasked, and assured the inoffensive and surprised horseman that it was unnecessary to draw his pistol. The traveller rallied his horse, with apologies to the gentleman, whom he had unwillingly affrighted, and pursued his journey. The horse next made the same suspicious approach to a coach, from the windows of which a blunderbuss was levelled, with denunciations of death and destruction to the rider, though *sackless*, as he used to ex-

ress it, of all offence in deed or word. In hort, after his life had been once or twice en-gered by the suspicions to which his horse's onduct gave rise, and his liberty as often reatened by peace officers, who were dis-osed to apprehend him as the notorious high-ayman who had formerly ridden the horse, e found himself obliged to part with the inau-icious animal for a mere trifle, and to urchase at a dearer rate a horse of less xternal figure and action, but of better moral abits.

Philosophic Cat.

A young cat, which sometimes had the in-ulgence of taking her place in the domestic rcle, upon the carpet before the fire in the arlour, one day came in when one of the arty was spinning upon a line wheel. Having ever seen such a thing before, she became xtremely alarmed by its appearance and otion. She couched down in an attitude of ar and of investigation; and yet at such a stance as would admit of a speedy retreat if she should prove to be alive, and an enemy. he crept slowly all along the wheel, with her yes steadily fixed on it, and with a very ngular expression of countenance, till at ngth, not being able to satisfy herself, she eated towards the door, impatiently wait- g to make her escape; which she did the oment it was in her power, with great pre- itation.

The next morning, when she came into the oom, the wheel then standing still, she ad-anced courageously towards it, and after an pparently careful examination, walking all ound, ventured upon the further experiment f endeavouring to ascertain with her paw hether there was really anything to be ap- rehended from it. Still not finding any otion, our philosopher of the Newtonian hool, satisfied that she had nothing to fear, eated herself quietly by the fire; and the ext time she saw it in motion, she sprang aily forward, and enjoyed her triumph, by laying with the object of her former terror.

An Ass Cast Away.

In March, 1816, an ass belonging to Captain undas, R.N., then at Malta, was shipped on oard the *Ister* frigate, Captain Forrest, ound from Gibraltar for that island. The essel struck on some sands off the Point de at, and the ass was thrown overboard, in the ope that it might possibly be able to swim to e land: of which, however, there seemed but ttle chance, for the sea was running so high, at a boat which left the ship was lost. A w days after, when the gates of Gibraltar ere opened in the morning, the guard were rprised by Valiant, as the ass was called, resenting himself for admittance. On enter- g, he proceeded immediately to the stable of r. Weeks, a merchant, which he had for- erly occupied. The poor animal had not

only swam safely to the shore, but without guide, compass, or travelling map, had found his way from Point de Gat to Gibraltar, a distance of more than two hundred miles, through a mountainous and intricate country, intersected by streams, which he had never traversed before, and in so short a period, that he could not have made one false turn.

The Notes of Birds.

The cock speaks the language of his hens, and he speaks it as they do; but more than they do, he boasts in crowing of the power he possesses of receiving proofs of his tenderness. He sings his valour and his glory.

The goldfinch, linnnet, and tomtit, sing their loves.

The chaffinch sings his love, and his self-love.

The canary bird sings his love, and his real talents.

The lark chaunts a hymn on the beauties of nature, and the vigour with which he cuts the air while he soars aloft in the presence of his mate, who is admiring him.

The swallow, all tenderness and affection, rarely sings alone, but in duo, trio; in short, in as many parts as there are members of the family. His gamut is very limited; however, its concert is full of sweetness.

The nightingale has three songs; that of suppliant love, at first languishing, then mixed with lively accents of impatience, which end in protracted notes full of pathos that touch the heart. In this song the female takes her part, by interrupting the couplet with tender notes; to which succeed an affirmative, timid and full of expression.

Remembrance of Home.

While the allied armies occupied France, in the year 1815, there was in the month of November of that year, a great fall of snow at Commercy, which covered the ground to the depth of eight or ten inches. When the Russian dragoons stationed there were taking their horses to water in the morning, these animals, surprised and delighted at a sight which doubtless reminded them of their own country, began to prance, neigh, and roll themselves in the snow. A number escaped from the hands of their conductors, who had great difficulty in catching them again.

Shipwrecked Crew Saved.

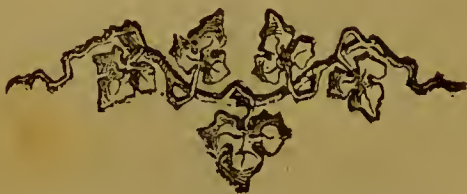
The *Durham* packet of Sunderland, was in 1815 wrecked near Clay, in Norfolk. A faithful dog was employed to use his efforts to carry the lead line on shore, from the vessel: but there being a very heavy sea, and a steep beach, it appeared that the drawback of the surf was too powerful for the animal to contend with. Mr. Parker, shipbuilder, of Wells, and Mr. Jackson, junior, of Clay, who were

on the spot, observing this, instantly rushed into the sea, which was running very high, and gallantly succeeded, though at a great risk, in catching hold of the dog, who was much exhausted, but who had all this time kept the line in his mouth; the line being thus obtained, a communication with the vessel was established, and a warp being passed from the ship to the shore, the lives of all on board, nine in number, including two children, were saved.

Honours Paid to Living and Departed Worth.

A good man (says Plutarch) will take care of his horses and dogs, not only when they are young, but when old and past service. Thus the people of Athens, when they had finished the temple called *Hecatompedon*, set at liberty the beasts of burden that had been chiefly employed in that work, suffering them to pasture at large, free from any farther service. It is said that one of these afterwards came of its own accord to work, and putting itself at the head of the labouring cattle, marched before them to the citadel. The people were pleased with this spontaneous action, and

made a decree that the animal should be kept at the public charge as long as it lived. Many have shown particular marks of regard in burying animals which they had cherished and been fond of. The graves of Cimon's mares, with which he thrice conquered at the Olympic games, are still to be seen near his own tomb. Xanthippus, whose dog swam by the side of his galley to Salamis, when the Athenians were forced to abandon their city, afterwards buried it with great pomp upon a promontory, which to this day is called the *dog's grave*. In Pliny, we have an amusing account of a superb funeral ceremony, which took place during the reign of Claudius; in which the illustrious departed was no other than a crow, so celebrated for its talents and address, that it was looked upon as a sort of public property. Its death was felt as a national loss; the man who killed it was condemned to expiate the crime with his own life; and nothing less than a public funeral could, as it was thought, do justice to its memory. The remains of the animal were laid on a bier, which was borne by two slaves; musicians went before it, playing mournful airs; and an infinite number of persons, of all ages and conditions, brought up the rear of the melancholy procession.



ANECDOTES OF INGENUITY.

— 'A long great ass, that swims with bladders.
Come but one prick of adverse fortune to him,
He sinks, because he never try'd to swim,
When wit plays with the billows that choak'd him.'
BEAUMONT AND FLETCHER.

Oracles.

NEARLY all the most celebrated legislators of antiquity were obliged to have recourse to some share of deception, to obtain acceptance of their respective systems of laws; but surely here is no case in which ingenuity can more justifiably diverge into fiction, than when employed to impress a rude or barbarous people with a respect for regular government.

When Lycurgus had the proud satisfaction of seeing the Lacedemonians growing strong and prosperous under the constitution which he had conferred upon them, his next wish was to ensure its perpetuity; and for this purpose, he made use of as ingenious a device as perhaps ever honoured the annals of public virtue. [See *Anecdotes of Patriotism*.]

Numa, the first lawgiver of the Romans, acted on a similar principle. He had a band of robbers to civilize, and a senate that constituted the most untractable part of the band. Had he proposed his laws to the assembled tribes, he would have met with a thousand difficulties from the assassins of his predecessor. He adopted a different method. He pretended to have held converse in the woods with the goddess Egeria, and from her had received a code sanctified with divine authority. What was the consequence? He was submitted to without opposition, and reigned happily. His intentions were admirable, and his mystification was suited to the superstitions of the times; but if an enemy had disclosed his artifice, and been able to persuade the people of its reality, he would, in all probability, have undergone the fate of Romulus, is 'an impostor, who prostituted the name of his gods, to deceive mankind.'

The Golden Head.

About 1060, Robert Guiscard, Prince of Apulia, discovered in that country a marble statue, around the head of which there was a circle of brass, with this inscription, *Calendis Maii, oriente sole, aureum caput habebô*; 'the

first day of May, at sun-rising, I shall have a golden head.' Many were the fruitless endeavours to solve the meaning of this enigma. At last a Saracen prisoner offered to expound it, on condition that he should be set at liberty if he succeeded. The prince agreed to the stipulation; and on the first day of May following, the Saracen went to observe the statue at sunrise. Noting the extreme point to which the shadow of the image extended, he directed the prince's attendants to dig there; when they had reached a considerable depth, they came to an immense treasure, which they truly interpreted to be the 'golden head' referred to in the inscription. The Saracen was not only restored to liberty, but was sent home loaded with rich and princely gifts.

Auguries.

Of a character, alike free from blame, with the use made of oracles by the legislators of ancient times, was the advantage frequently taken by generals of the superstitious notions of their troops, to rouse their courage or dispel their fears. When the Athenians, under Pericles, were preparing for battle, there issued from a neighbouring wood, sacred to the gods, a tall and venerable figure, clothed in purple, and drawn in a chariot by white horses, who, advancing towards the Greeks, called aloud on Pericles by name, and announced to him, that the gods had come to aid the Athenians! Elated with this assurance, the Athenians instantly rushed to the attack, and before many lances were thrown, gained a glorious victory. When such effects could be produced by a belief in the corporeal interposition of the gods, it was no more than what might be expected from a good general, that he should provide a deity for the occasion, as Pericles had here unquestionably done.

Q. Sertorius, whose forces were chiefly composed of barbarians, was obliged to have recourse to a species of imposture somewhat

grosser. He carried about with him a beautiful white hind, which he made his soldiers believe was 'sent of heaven;' and on all occasions of emergency pretended to be guided by what the deities had, through this medium, dictated to him.

The troops, in both these instances, felt equally assured of divine aid and direction, and that was sufficient.

The expedients which have been employed to dispel fears excited by accidental circumstances, are of a more pleasing cast; since, being generally inspired by the necessity of the moment, and not the result of any preconcerted scheme of deception, there may, in truth, be more of inspiration in them. What could be more felicitous than the exclamation of Epaminondas, on beholding the terror produced in his troops, by a flaming meteor descending from heaven, during the darkness of night: 'Let us on, my friends! The gods send us light.' In like manner, when a thunderbolt fell before the Athenian fleet, and was generally regarded as an unhappy omen, Chabrias revived all hearts, by exclaiming, 'Now is the moment to fight, when Jupiter, the chief of the gods, tells us that he himself is to lead our fleet.'

The great influence which such favourable omens, or circumstances so interpreted, must have had upon the Greeks, may be judged of from the extraordinary respect which they were apt to pay to the most trifling circumstances of an adverse complexion. Timotheus was about to commence a sea fight with the Corcyrians, when the moment he put his fleet in motion, the sailing-master caused a signal of retreat to be hoisted, because he heard some one—sneeze. 'Wonderful,' said Timotheus, 'that among so many thousand men, one should catch cold.' Epaminondas, before going into battle with the Lacedemonians, sat down to rest for a few moments, when his seat fell under him. 'That,' quoth the soldiers, 'bodes no good.' 'Nay,' said their leader, with happy presence of mind, 'it is an intimation to me that I have no business to be sitting here, when I should be leading you against the enemy.' On another occasion, the same commander found his troops sadly disheartened, because the wind had blown the ornament of his spear upon the tomb of a Lacedemonian. 'Why should that,' said he, 'excite your fears? The Lacedemonians are about to fall under your arms, and they are decking their sepulchres to be ready to receive their remains.'

Stratagem.

Bravery consists in overcoming an enemy by open force; but conduct, in subduing him by art and stratagem, without a blow. Hence, it is the first qualification of a great general, to gain a bloodless victory. For this purpose nothing is better calculated than a stratagem, which, being conceived in the heat of action, secures the victory, by anticipating the fortune of the day. Lysiphus, the son of Eolus, is

said to have been the first of the Greeks who on such occasions made use of cunning and deceit. Homer suggests this idea of him, when he calls him the *craftiest of men*. The second who distinguished himself in this branch of knowledge was Antolycus, the son of Mercury, whom Homer celebrates as outstripping all the rest of mortals in the arts of circumvention. Of the many-shaped Proteus everyone has heard. It is not credible, however, that Proteus could at pleasure assume the forms of animals, plants, and other natural objects. It was no doubt his dexterity in effecting by art and cunning whatever he pleased, that gave occasion to Homer's fable. Even the 'divine' Ulysses boasts of his skill in deceiving. 'I am,' says he, 'Ulysses, known to all men for every species of deceit, and my glory reaches heaven.' The rest of the heroes attributed to him their victory; and declared that to his conduct they owed the taking of the wide-strected city of Priam.

Festival of Apaturia.

Melanthus commanded the Athenians, and Xanthus the Bœotians, while they were contending for the possession of Melœnæ, a fort situated on the confines of Attica and Bœotia. Xanthus having consulted an oracle, had received this answer:

'By fraud, Melanthus shall Melœnæ gain.'

A prediction which was thus verified. The generals undertook to decide the quarrel by single combat. As they were on the point of engaging, 'You act unfairly,' says Melanthus, 'in bringing a second to the field.' Xanthus looking back to see this second, was pierced and slain by the dart of his antagonist. The Athenians being victorious by means of this stratagem, instituted an annual festival, which, from the deception, they called *Apaturia*.

Pisistratus.

When Pisistratus and Megacles contended for the ascendancy in Athens, the former determined the matter in his favour, by an ingenious, yet base, sort of stratagem, which, we regret to say, has not been without many imitators in modern times. One day, in an assembly of the people, he declaimed against his rival in a manner which might well be supposed to exasperate him to the utmost; the next, he made himself be carried in his chariot into the market-place, wounded and bleeding, and gave out that he had been waylaid and put in danger of his life, by the party of his enraged antagonist, although he had, in fact, inflicted the wounds, very harmless ones of course, with his own hands. Another assembly of the people was immediately convened; and so general was the indignation with which they were filled against the authors of the supposed assassination, that it was resolved, in spite of all the remonstrances Solon could oppose to it, to grant Pisistratus a guard

of fifty persons, for the security of his person. Pisistratus desired nothing better. He soon augmented the number as he thought fit, and made himself at length master of the citadel: all his enemies betook themselves to flight, and he was left tyrant of Athens.

From this elevation he was twice thrown down; but each time he found means to re-estate himself, and died at last in his bed, and left his tyranny to his children. 'It was his artifices,' says Rollin, 'which acquired him his power; but his moderation which maintained him in it.' An exact submission to the laws, distinguished Pisistratus from most other usurpers; and the mildness of his government was such as might make many a legitimate sovereign blush. When Cicero was in doubt what use Cæsar would make of his victory at Pharsalia, he aptly observed in a letter to his friend Atticus, 'We do not yet know, whether the destiny of Rome will have us groan under a Phalaris, or *live* under a Pisistratus.'

Taking of Salamis.

While the Athenians and Megarensians were contending for the possession of Salamis, the Athenian matrons repaired to Colias, to celebrate the festival of Ceres. Solon caused intelligence of this to be given to the Megarensians, who, as he expected, resolved to surprise the Athenian matrons in the midst of their revels, and, if possible, carry them off captives. Solon, fully apprised of their intentions, ordered the matrons to remove out of the way, and, in their stead, commanded a number of beardless youths, dressed in the habit of women, and crowned with garlands, but armed with concealed daggers, to sport and dance along the sea shore.

The Megarensians, deceived by appearances, hesitatingly disembarked, and endeavoured to seize the fair revellers, who, drawing their weapons, and showing themselves men, cut the enemy to pieces, boarded their ships, and afterwards took Salamis by storm.

Beguiling Hunger.

Want, as has been truly observed, sharpens the brain, as well as the stomach. In the time of Atys, the son of Manes, as we read in Herodotus, there was so great a scarcity of provisions among the Lydians, that they were glad to have recourse to all sorts of subtle games, to beguile their hungry hours. Gaming became at last so absolute a substitute for food, that every second day they subsisted upon it, if we may so speak, entirely; and we are assured they continued this alternate system of playing and eating, for no less than twenty-two years; when the country was at length relieved of its excess of population, by the emigration of a large portion of it to Tyrrhenia, the modern Tuscany. Dice

and ball are among the games said to have been invented by the Lydians during this period of famine; so also is chess, but with less appearance of probability. Strange that want should have been the parent of what so often leads to it!

Defeat of the Messenians.

After the Lacedemonians had carried on war for upwards of twenty years against the Messenians, Polydorus pretended to be at variance with Theopompus, the other King of Sparta, and sent a deserter to acquaint the enemy that the quarrel would produce a mutual and open defection. The Messenians being on the watch, Theopompus decamped, and that he might be ready on any emergency, concealed his army at no great distance. The enemy despising Polydorus now that he was alone, marched out of the city, with all their forces. Theopompus, instructed by his spies, stole round them, and after taking the deserted city, attacked the Messenians in the rear, while Polydorus charged them in front. Thus pressed by double danger, they were easily made prisoners.

Changing Signals.

Cleomenes, King of the Lacedemonians, being at war with the Argives, pitched his camp directly opposite to them. The Argives watched narrowly the motions of their enemies, and regulated their own conduct by what they observed in the Lacedemonian camp. It was the custom of Cleomenes to give all his orders by the mouth of a herald. When his herald accordingly gave orders to arm, the Argives armed; when he gave orders to go out for necessities, the Argives went out for necessities; when he gave orders to rest, the Argives rested. Cleomenes now gave private directions that when the herald should proclaim the order for dinner, the soldiers should arm. The herald performed his office, and the Argives went directly to dinner. But Cleomenes, leading out his troops, all armed, easily cut to pieces the unarmed and naked Argives.

Androides.

The first mention that we find of those automata which, on account of their representing human figures, are called Androides, occurs in Plato and Aristotle, both of whom allude to certain statues made by Dædalus, which could not only walk, but which it was necessary *to live*, in order to prevent them from moving. Aristotle also speaks of a wooden Venus of this kind, and remarks, somewhat obscurely, that Dædalus made it move by pouring in quicksilver. The account of the heads formed by Roger Bacon, and Albertus Magnus, are so mixed with fable, that no reliance can be placed on them. They are

said not only to have moved, but to have even spoken; and to have been resorted to as oracles by their inventors, as if those who possessed the secret of their movement and articulation, if they possessed either, could be at all deceived by the work of their own hands, whatever other people might be. Without uttering oracles, however, they might have wagged in wise enough sort, to give cred't to the legend, which informs us, that Thomas Aquinas was so alarmed when he saw the head made by Albertus, that he broke it in pieces; upon which the afflicted artist exclaimed, 'Ah! me, there goes the labour of thirty years.'

In the middle of the sixteenth century, Hans Bullman, a padlock maker of Nuremberg, made figures of men and women, which moved backwards and forwards, beat the drum, and played upon the lute.

Strada informs us, that Turriano, whom Charles the Fifth, after his abdication, took with him into his retirement, to assist him in his mechanical studies, also made puppets, which he would introduce upon table after dinner, some beating drums, others blowing trumpets; some charging each other with couched spears, and mimic ferocity.

In the year 1729, Père Truchet constructed an extraordinary piece of mechanism for the amusement of Louis XIV. when a child. It consisted of a series of moving pictures, representing an opera in five acts, which the little actors performed in pantomime. M. Camus, for the same purpose, constructed a little carriage drawn by two horses, containing the figure of a lady, with a coachman driving, and a footman and page behind. When placed upon the table, the coachman smacked his whip, the horses proceeded, moving their legs naturally; and when the carriage arrived opposite the king's seat, it stopped, and the page getting down, opened the door; the lady alighted, and with a curtsy, presented a petition to the king. After a short pause, she curtsied again, and re-entered the carriage. The page remounted, the coachman flogged his horses, the carriage moved on, and the footman running after it, jumped up again behind.

In 1738, M. Vaucanson exhibited in Paris, two very remarkable automata. The first was a flute player, in a sitting posture, who performed twelve tunes; the second was a standing figure, which played on a shepherd's pipe, held in its left hand, while with the right hand it beat upon a tabor.

The secrets of these ingenious automata have been explained, particularly that of the flute player, by Vaucanson himself, in a quarto pamphlet of a dozen pages, printed at Paris, in 1738, under the title of '*Le Mécanisme du Flûteur automate, par Vaucanson.*' From this it appears, that the figure was five feet and a half high, seated upon a fragment of rock, which was supported by a pedestal four feet and a half high, by three and a half broad. Within the pedestal, nine pair of bellows were set in motion by clockwork. A peculiar contrivance in the valves, prevented the fluttering

noise which usually attends their opening; and the wind was forced into three tubes, which ascending through the trunk, terminated in a single reservoir connected with the cavity of the mouth. Another piece of clockwork within the pedestal, was applied to communicate the necessary motions to the fingers, lips, and tongue. A revolving cylinder, with various pegs inserted in it, raised, or depressed, several levers, on the principle of a barrel organ; and in this manner, music is said to have been produced little inferior, if not fully equal, to the performance of a skilful living flute player.

The piper depended upon the same principles; but from the imperfection of the instrument, presented far greater difficulties in its completion. A weight of fifty-six pounds was required for the bellows which produced the highest note; such, therefore, is the effort required from the lungs of a living performer: while one ounce only sufficed for the lowest note. Different proportions of wind also became necessary to produce even the same note, according as it succeeded one part or another of the scale of the flageolet. But in the end, the mimic piper is said to have much excelled his natural rivals. The fatigue of the instrument is such, that in a rapid movement, the notes are generally shurred by a living performer, but the automaton was enabled to produce all these with distinct separate articulations of the tongue.

But these automata, ingenious as they must be acknowledged to be, have been since surpassed by Maillardet, a Swiss, and one of the most ingenious automatical mechanists of modern times. A few years ago, this gentleman exhibited in London a female figure, which performed eighteen tunes on the pianoforte, at the same time that she imitated the motions of natural life. The bosom heaved, the eyes appeared to follow the movements of the fingers over the keys, the pressure of which produced the notes; and at the commencement and conclusion of each air, the image saluted the spectators by a graceful inclination of the head. The action of this machine, when wound up, continued for an hour.

M. Maillardet at the same time exhibited the figure of a boy kneeling on one knee, and holding a pen in his hand, with which he executed various drawings, and pieces of writing; also an automaton tumbler; a little image, a few inches only in height, which was enclosed in a glass case (the lower part of which contained the mechanism), and when set in motion, threw itself into a variety of elegant and grotesque attitudes, keeping tune to some music produced by the machine.

Last of all, there was a magician, who returned answers to any questions chosen at random, from twenty different medallions. The medallion was placed in a drawer, and after some minutes spent in consultation of his books, and a solemn movement of his wand, the soothsayer struck two folding doors above his head, which opened, and displayed the appropriate answer.

Of still greater reputation than the androides of M. Mullardet, is the chess-player of M. de Kempelen; but that it is of more merit as a mechanical contrivance, we are by no means inclined to believe. The effects produced by M. Maillardet, are clearly referable to mechanical causes; those of M. Kempelen, to human agency.—See *Automaton Chess-Player*.

Using the Net in Single Combat.

Pittacus and Phryno having resolved to determine their right to Sigeum by single combat, it was stipulated that their arms should be equal, and of the same description. Accordingly, their visible arms were equal; but Pittacus concealing under his shield a net, threw it around Phryno, whom, thus entangled, he easily dragged along and killed. The net, in consequence of the success of this artifice, became afterwards a favourite weapon among prize fighters.

The Automaton Chess-Player.

Few productions in the automatical art have been more admired, than the celebrated chess-player invented by Wolfgang de Kempelen, an Hungarian gentleman. In the year 1769, he was invited by order of the Empress Maria Theresa, to attend certain magnetical experiments exhibited by a Frenchman of the name of Pelletier. While in a familiar conversation with the empress during this exhibition, M. Kempelen hinted that he thought himself able to construct a piece of mechanism, far more surprising than those which her majesty then witnessed. The curiosity of the empress was excited; and she exacted from M. Kempelen, a promise to make the attempt, which he kept, and in six months produced his automaton chess-player, which excited the highest admiration and astonishment at Vienna.

For some time, M. Kempelen declined exhibiting his automaton in public; and although liberal offers were made to purchase it, yet he laid it aside, and even took part of it to pieces. In this disjointed state it remained for several years, until a visit made by the Grand Duke Paul of Russia, and his consort, to the court of Vienna, when the empress signified a wish that it should be exhibited for their gratification. In five weeks it was repaired, and the imperial visitors were so delighted by its performances, that they urged the proprietor to permit it; public exhibition. He at length complied; the automaton was shown in various parts of Germany and France: and in 1783, it was brought to England. On the death of M. Kempelen, in 1819, the automaton was sold, and again visited the British metropolis.

The automatical pretensions of the chess-player have been doubted: and certainly there were circumstances connected with it, which might give rise to suspicion. The room in which it was exhibited, had an inner

apartment, within which, appeared the figure of a Turk, of the natural size, sitting behind a chest three feet and a half in length, two in breadth, and two and a half in height; to this chest was attached the wooden seat on which the figure sat; the chest was movable on castors, to any part of the room. On the top, in the centre, was an immovable chess-board, upon which the eyes of the figure were fixed. Its right hand and arm were extended on the chest, and its left, somewhat raised, held a pipe. Certain doors, two in the front, and two in the back of the chest, were opened, and a drawer in the bottom of it, containing the chessmen and a cushion, whereon to place the arm of the figure, were pulled out. Two lesser doors were also opened in the body of the figure, and a candle was held within the cavities thus displayed. The door and the drawer having been closed, the exhibiter wound up the works, placed a cushion under the arm of the figure, and challenged any individual of the company present to play.

In playing, the automaton always made choice of the first move, and the white pieces. It also played with the left arm; the inventor, as it is said, not having perceived the mistake till his work was too far advanced to alter it. The hand and fingers opened on touching the piece, which it grasped and conveyed to the proper square. After a move, made by its antagonist, the automaton paused for a few moments, as if contemplating the game. On giving check to the king, it made a signal with its head. If a false move was made by its antagonist, it tapped on the chest impatiently, replaced the piece, and claimed the move for itself as an advantage. If the antagonist delayed any considerable time, the automaton tapped smartly on the chest, with the right hand. In M. Kempelen's time, the game was invariably won by the automaton, though it was repeatedly lost when, on his death, it was purchased by M. Maelzel. At the close of the game, the automaton moved the knight, with its proper motion, over each of the sixty-three squares of the board in turn, without missing one, and without a single return to the same square.

As these phenomena appear at first sight far beyond what mere mechanism can effect, various conjectures have been offered, as to the means by which they are produced. Although positive proof is wanting, there are strong reasons, however, for believing that the movements are not those of a mere automaton; for notwithstanding the apparent display of the interior of the chest and the figure, yet ample space is left unopened, for the concealment of a person, of ordinary size, behind a false back to the narrowest division only.

It is to be remarked, that the machinery is always exhibited in a fixed state, but carefully excluded from view when in motion: so that it is impossible to ascertain how far it is, in truth, connected with the automaton. No variation ever takes place in the precise order in which the doors are opened; and in wind-

ing up the clockwork, the key always appears limited to a certain number of revolutions, however different may have been the number of moves performed in the game. Sixty-three moves have sometimes been executed without winding up; and once it was observed to be wound up, without the intervention of a single move.

All these circumstances are decidedly opposed to the supposition (abstractly most unphilosophical) that the machinery possesses any power of changing its operations, according to the varying situations of a game of chess; or has, in fact, anything to do with the business beyond serving the mere purpose of optical delusion.

Let us consider farther the change in skill which has taken place in this automaton. In the time of M. Kempelen it was never beat; in the hands of its present possessor, M. Maelzel, it is often. Whether it is more likely that a machine of wood and metal should forget its cunning, or that the invisible player of the present day should be less skilled in the game than his predecessor?

Neither may it be out of place to call to mind, that Hungary, where this mechanical wonder had its origin, shares with Poland and Russia, the honour of being the region of that tiny order of human beings, cyclop'd dwarfs, who can creep into, and live and act in, places of vastly inferior dimensions to what would be required for mere ordinary men. If Jeffery Hudson could be served up in a pie to Charles the Second; we do not see why a Jeffery Secundus, as skilled in chess-playing as his prototype was in intrigue, might not with equal ease be secreted in the apparatus of M. Kempelen.

Artificial Birds.

Automatical animals, as well as human figures, are often mentioned by ancient writers. Aulus Gellius describes a wooden pigeon made by Archytas of Tarentum, which possessed the power of flying; but which, when it had once settled, could not renew its flight. Cassiodorus, in the sixth century, speaks of some machines invented by Boetius, in the following brief but expressive terms: 'Metals love, the birds of Diomedes trumpet in brass, the brazen serpent hisses, counterfeited swallows chatter, and such as have no proper note, from brass send forth harmonious sounds.'

John Muller, better known by the name of Regiomontanus, in the fifteenth century, must have been a very ingenious maker of automata, if we may credit the only authority on which they rest, that of Peter Ramus, who, however, did not flourish until a hundred years afterwards. Ramus very gravely relates, that Regiomontanus fabricated a wooden eagle, which, on the emperor Maximilian's paying Nuremberg a visit, flew out to meet him, and after saluting him in due form, turned round, and accompanied the royal procession to the city gates. The story has

also received a poetical shape from the pen of Du Bartas

'Why should I not that wooden eagle mention,

A learned German's late admir'd invention,
Which mounting from his fist that fram'd her,

Flew far to greet the German emperor?
And having met him, with her nimble train,
And pliant wings, turning about again,
Followed him close unto the castle gate
Of Nuremberg; which all their shows of

state,
Streets hang'd with arras, arches curious

built,
Grey-headed senate, and youth's gallantries,
Grac'd not so much as only this device.'

Du Bartas goes on to relate another equally credible instance of this great artist's skill:—

'Once as this artist, more with mirth than

meat,
Feasted some friends, whom he esteemed

great,
Forth from his hand an iron fly flew out;
Which, having flown a perfect round about,
With weary wings return'd unto her master.

* * * * *
O wit divine! that in the narrow womb
Of a small fly, could find sufficient room
For all those springs, wheels, counterpoise,
and chains,

Which stood instead of life, and blood, and
brains.'

With the eagle and fly of Regiomontanus, we may rank the wooden sparrows with which Turriano is said to have amused the Emperor Charles V., by making them fly of their own accord about his dining room. Either such things never existed, or their powers have been most preposterously overrated. However great and surprising the achievements of mechanism may be, the movements which spring from it, are necessarily limited and uniform; it cannot have imparted to it the faculty of volition, so as to vary its operations according to circumstances; and, therefore, we can be at no difficulty in deciding, that there can be no truth in artificial birds flying abroad and returning at pleasure, as these stories imply. It is not improbable, however, that a love of the marvellous, so common to all states of ignorance, may have led to this fictitious embellishment of what were, in reality, very extraordinary efforts of mechanism.

Of the real extent to which art can go in the imitation of animal nature, modern times have furnished as extraordinary, and at the same time *as authenticated*, instances, as need be required. Vaucanson, who has been one of the most successful in experiments of this kind, exhibited among other automata, a duck of the size of life, which moved its wings, quacked, drank water, ate corn, and what is more—*digested it!* De Gennes, who about the year 1688, defended the colony of St. Christopher against the English, is said to have constructed a peacock, which per-

med all the functions of Vaucanson's clock!

Mr. Maillardet carried animal automata still farther. Among the curiosities of this description, which he exhibited, was an oval box, about three inches long, which opened itself, when a humming bird flew from its side, and after fluttering for some time with its wings, commenced warbling! The notes were loud and clear, and when the bird had finished, it darted into its nest, and the lid closed; the action of this machine lasted four minutes. A spider of steel ran upon a table in three minutes; a serpent crawled about and hissed for seven; and a caterpillar, lizard, and a mouse, all closely imitated the natural actions of the beings they represented.

A Difficult Passage.

A marshal of France, when confined in the Bastille, was one day busily employed in turning over the leaves of the Bible; and being asked what he was looking for, replied, 'A passage that I cannot find—a way to get out of prison.'

Wonders of Littleness.

'As the great extreme of dimensions,' says Burke, 'is sublime, so the last extreme of littleness is in some measure sublime likewise.' Neither are the bounds small within which our belief should be circumscribed, when it comes to instances of delicacy, or minuteness of workmanship, that we are required to give credence. Pliny and Ælian relate, that Myrtilides wrought out of ivory, a chariot with four wheels and four horses, and a ship with all her tackling, both in so small a compass, that a bee could hide either with its wings. Nor should we doubt this, when we find it recorded in our own domestic history, on less questionable authority (*Fayth. Ann.*), that in the twentieth year of Queen Elizabeth's reign, a blacksmith of London, of the name of Mark Scaliot, made a lock of iron, steel, and brass, of eleven pieces, and a pipe key, all of which only weighed one grain. Scaliot also made a chain of gold, of forty-three links, which he fastened to the lock and key, and put it round the neck of a flea, which threw the whole with perfect ease. The chain, key, lock, and flea, altogether, weighed but one grain and a half!

Hadrianus Junius saw at Mechlin in Brabant, a cherrystone cut into the form of a basket, in which were fourteen pair of dice distinct, the spots and numbers of which were easily to be discerned with a good eye.

But still more extraordinary than this basket of dice, or anything we have yet mentioned, must have been a set of turnery shown at Rome, in the time of Pope Paul V., by one Shad of Mitelbrach, who had purchased it from the artist, Oswaldus Northingerus. It consisted of sixteen hundred dishes, which

were all perfect and complete in every part, yet so small and slender, that the whole could be easily enclosed in a case fabricated out of a peppercorn of the ordinary size! The Pope is said to have himself counted them, but with the help of a pair of spectacles, for they were so very small, as to be almost invisible to the naked eye. Although his holiness thus satisfied his own eyes of the fact, he did not, we are assured, require of those about him to subscribe to it on the credit of his infallibility, for he gave every one an opportunity of examining and judging for himself; and among the persons thus highly favoured, particular reference is made to Gaspar Schioppus, and Johannes Faber, a physician of Rome. (*Servii. Dissert. de Armario.*)

Turriano, of whose skill so many wonderful things are related, is said to have fabricated iron mills, which moved of themselves, so minute in size, that a monk could carry one in his sleeve; and yet it was powerful enough to grind, in a single day, grain enough for the consumption of eight men.

On the birthday of his majesty George III., in 1764, Mr. Arnold, a watchmaker of London, waited on the king, with a curious repeating watch which he had constructed. His majesty, as well as the rest of the royal family, to whom Mr. Arnold was introduced, expressed their utmost admiration of the work; and extraordinary it must indeed be considered, when it is known that this repeating watch was in diameter somewhat less than a silver twopenny; that it contained one hundred and twenty distinct parts; and that altogether it weighed no more than five pennyweights, seven grains, and three-fourths. May we not consider this as the *ne plus ultra*, or very sublimity, of littleness?

In penmanship, the productions of this class have been very numerous, and some of them not a little extraordinary. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, as Dr. Heylin, in his 'Life of King Charles,' relates, 'There was one who wrote the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Pater Noster, the queen's name, and the year of our Lord, within the compass of a penny; and gave her majesty a pair of spectacles, of such an artificial making, that, by the help thereof, she did plainly and distinctly discern every letter.' How much is this, however, surpassed by the performance of a writing engraver of the present day, a Mr. Davies, of London, who has engraved the Creed, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, and his own name, all in the size of a silver penny!

A gentleman now living in Liverpool, has written the whole of Mr. Roscoe's poem of 'Mount Pleasant,' in a square of 3 1-6th inch by 2 7-16th inches; Goldsmith's poem of 'The Traveller' (488 lines) in a square of 3 1/2 inch by 3 1/2 inches; the book of the Prophet Malachi, in a kind of pyramid, not exceeding an ordinary little finger in bulk; and the Lord's Prayer, in the circle of 3-16th of an inch, which may be distinctly read with a magnifying glass, and by some without that

help. It is very common to see the Lord's Prayer written or engraved in the space of a sixpence; but the specimen just mentioned is less than an ordinary sixpence, in proportion as one is to sixteen.

A Water Quack.

In the year 1728, one Villars told his friends in confidence, that his uncle, who had lived almost a hundred years, and who died only by accident, had left him a certain preparation, which had the virtue to prolong a man's life to a hundred and fifty years, if he lived with sobriety. When he happened to observe the procession of a funeral, he shrugged up his shoulders in pity. 'If the deceased,' said he, 'had taken my medicine, he would not be where he is.' His friends, among whom he distributed it generously, observing the condition required, found its utility, and extolled it. He was thence encouraged to sell it at a crown the bottle: and the sale was prodigious. It was no more than the water of the Seine, mixed with a little nitre. Those who made use of it, and were attentive at the same time to the regimen, or who were happy in good constitutions, soon recovered their usual health. To others he observed: 'It is your own fault if you be not perfectly cured; you have been intemperate and incontinent; renounce these vices, and believe me you will live at least a hundred and fifty years.' Some of them took his advice, and his wealth grew with his reputation. The Abbé Pones extolled this quack, and gave him the preference to the Marischal de Villars. 'The latter,' says he, 'kills men, the former prolongs their existence.' At length it was discovered that Villars' medicine was composed chiefly of river water; his practice was now at an end; men had recourse to other quacks.

Villars was certainly of no disservice to his patients, and can only be reproached with selling the water of the Seine at too high a price.

Hieroglyphical Embassy.

After the Scythians had laid waste their country before the legions of Darius, and thus reduced the invading army to the greatest distress for want of provisions; they sent an ambassador to the Persian king to present him with a bird, a mouse, a frog, and five arrows. The ambassador was asked what these presents meant. He answered that he had nothing else in charge but to deliver them, and return with all speed; but that the Persians, if they were ingenious, would discover what interpretation to put upon them. Darius, judging according to his wishes, gave it as his opinion that they were tokens of submission. 'The mouse,' said he, 'being bred in the earth, indicates that they yield up their lands; the frog, living in water, that they yield up also their lakes, rivers, &c.; the bird, represented all the wild and tame fowl; and the

delivering up the five arrows was the same with the Scythians as delivering up arms is with other nations.' 'Alas!' said Gobryas, one of the seven princes who had ejected the magi, 'it is far otherwise. For, O Persians! unless as birds ye fly in the air, or as mice ye retreat under the earth, or as frogs ye swim in the water, ye shall never return whence ye came, but shall perish by these arrows.' And so, in fact, it turned out; for it was only by the merest accident that Darius and the whole of the army were not cut off by the Scythians.

Cunning Astrologer.

An astrologer in the reign of Louis the Eleventh of France, having foretold something disagreeable to the king, his majesty, in revenge, resolved to have him killed. The next day he sent for the astrologer, and ordered the people about him, at a signal given, to throw the astrologer out of the window. As soon as the king saw him, 'You that pretend,' said he, 'to be such a wise man, and know so perfectly the fate of others, inform me a little what will be your own, and how long you have to live?' The astrologer, who now began to apprehend some danger, answered with great presence of mind, 'I know my destiny, and am certain I shall die three days before your majesty.' The king on this was so far from having him thrown out of the window, that, on the contrary, he took particular care not to suffer him to want anything, and did all that was possible to retard the death of one whom he was likely so soon to follow.

The Charm.

The Abbé Reynal was the first to give publicity to the following remarkable instance of Highland ingenuity and courage; but giving no name to the hero of the anecdote, or authority for its truth, it has been generally regarded as a fit companion to the story of Polly Baker, imposed on the abbé by Benjamin Franklin. The incident is, however, undoubtedly true. The hero of it was a sergeant of Montgomery's Highland regiment, and his name Allan Macpherson. Being taken prisoner by the Indians, he was doomed to witness the miserable spectacle of several of his comrades tortured to death. Seeing them preparing to commence the same operations upon himself, he made signs that he had something to communicate. An interpreter was brought. Macpherson told them that, provided his life was spared for a few minutes, he would communicate the secret of an extraordinary medicine, which, if applied to the skin, would cause it to resist the strongest blow of a tomahawk or sword, and that if they would allow him to go to the woods with a guard, to collect the plants proper for this medicine, he would prepare it, and allow the experiment to be tried on his own neck by the strongest and most expert warrior amongst them. This story easily gained upon the superstitious credulity of the

Indians, and the request of the Highlander was immediately complied with. Being sent into the woods, he soon returned with such herbs as he chose to pick up. Having collected these herbs, he rubbed his neck with their juice, and, laying his head on a log of wood, desired the strongest man among them to strike at his neck with his tomahawk, when he would find that he could not make the smallest impression. An Indian, levelling a blow with all his might, cut with such force at the head flew off to the distance of several yards. The Indians were fixed with amazement at their own credulity, and the address with which the prisoner had escaped the lingering death prepared for him; but instead of being enraged at this escape of their victim, they were so pleased with his ingenuity that they refrained from inflicting further cruelties on the remainder of the prisoners.

Triumphs of the Pulley.

A very extraordinary experiment, and which may be considered as one of the greatest triumphs ever achieved by that mechanical power, the pulley, was made at Plymouth, on the 1st of July, 1817. It had been some time in contemplation to pull up a line-of-battle ship on one of the building slips; and the *Vengeur*, of 80 guns, was fixed on for the experiment; but, on inspecting her, she was found to be not worth repairing, and the *Kent* was substituted. Two frigates, the *Diana* and the *Albatross*, had been hauled up with facility on the slips at Blackburn's Yard, Catwater; and the *Resistance* in Plymouth Yard; but though the machinery was in every respect most powerful, and more than sufficient to effect the purpose, yet the ground (newly made in which the bollards (huge posts) were fixed, was shaken by the tremendous strain, and during the operation it was much feared that it would give way before the ship could be got up. This was the only point in which it was thought the experiment could fail in the case of the *Kent*, as, to use the words of a most intelligent officer, who superintended the fixing of the blocks, tackles, &c., the machinery was not only sufficiently powerful to haul her up on the slip, but to weigh and suspend her in the air.

The purchases were immense, and beyond all conception, numerous and effective. Sixteen hundred men were employed at the capstans. The first hour was taken up in heaving the purchases tight, and at four o'clock the *Kent*, of 80 guns, and weighing 1664 tons, was lifted completely out of the water, and placed high and dry in a cradle, to the delight and astonishment of thousands of spectators. This was indeed the triumph of the pulley.

A similar experiment, but on a smaller scale, has been made at New York, in America. The new frigate *Potomac*, of the class of 44 guns, and weighing, with the apparatus attached to her, about 1600 tons, was the ship with which it was tried. Though a gale wind prevailed, the ship was introduced

without accident between the ways on which she was to ascend, and at nine o'clock the power of three windlasses, worked by forty or fifty men each, was applied to the immense floating castle, and she began slowly to ascend. The operation was continued successfully, till the ship was drawn almost out of the water. At this moment the lashings which connected the block of the centre purchase with the large cable that passed around the ship, fore and aft, and drew her on, parted. This accident had been guarded against, and means taken, in case of such an occurrence, to prevent the ship from running back. The vessel, therefore, remained firm in her place; but, as it required some hours to repair the damage, the remainder of the operation was deferred until next morning, when it was completed.

Detecting a Thief.

I knew, says Voltaire, at London, a physician of the name of Brown, who had practised at Barbadoes, where he had a sugar work, and negroes. Having been robbed of a considerable sum, he called together his slaves. 'My friends,' said he, 'the great serpent appeared to me in the middle of the night, and told me that the person who stole my money, should, at this instant, have a feather on the tip of his nose.' The thief immediately put his hand to his nose. 'It is you, sirrah!' cried the master, 'who robbed me.' The simple negro confessed the theft, and the physician recovered his money. But, as Voltaire drily adds, 'for such tricks to succeed again, one must have to do with negroes.'

Fraud in Drawing Lots.

When Cresphontes, Temenus, and the sons of Aristodemus, were sharing Peloponnesus among them, the whole country was, by common consent, divided into three lots—Sparta, Argos, and Messena. Cresphontes, desirous to become master of Messena, as it was the best, made this proposal. Let Sparta or Argos follow the first and second lots as they come up; but let Messena be the appendage of the third. It was so agreed, and the parties were to throw lots of white stone into a pitcher filled with water. Cresphontes, however, dropt a lot of white clay resembling a stone, which immediately dissolved. The lots of stone coming forth, gave Argos to Temenus, and Sparta to the children of Aristodemus. Thus Cresphontes seemed to receive as the gift of fortune what was, in fact, the acquisition of art.

An Archbishop Punned Out of a Manor.

Fuller tells us, in his 'History of the Church,' that Earl Godwin having a mind to the rich manor of Boscum in Sussex, complimented Robert, Archbishop of Canterbury,

out of it, in the following singular manner. Coming to the archbishop, he said, *Da mihi Boseham* (pronounced like *basium*, a kiss), an usual favour to solicit from the head of the church. The archbishop answered, *Do tibi basium*, and therewith gave the earl a holy kiss; 'holy,' says honest Fuller, 'as meant, but a crafty one as taken; for Godwin presently posted to Boseham, and took possession thereof; and though there was neither real intention in him who passed it away, nor valuable consideration to him, but a mere circumvention, yet such was Godwin's power, and the archbishop's poorness of spirit, that he quietly enjoyed it.'

A Hit in Diplomacy.

The Lampsacenians having given great offence to Alexander the Great, sent Anaximenes as their ambassador to appease him. Alexander, at the first sight of him, broke out into a great passion, and told Anaximenes not to trouble him with his solicitations, 'for I swear,' added he, 'that were you my master I would not do what you mean to desire me.' 'Be it as thou hast sworn, O king!' said the ambassador, calmly; 'Anaximenes, if thy master, would only ask of Alexander that he would utterly destroy the country of his master.' Alexander, by the terms of his vow, was of course bound to deny this request, though so agreeable to his wishes at the moment; but he had too much respect for wit and presence of mind in an ambassador to feel any temptation to evade fulfilment, and Lampsacus was spared.

James Ferguson.

'My taste for mechanics,' says Mr. Ferguson, in a sketch of his own life, 'arose from an odd accident. When about seven or eight years of age, a part of the roof of the house being decayed, my father applied a prop and lever to an upright spar to raise it to its former situation; and, to my great astonishment, I saw him, without considering the reason, lift up the ponderous roof as if it had been a small weight. I attributed this, at first, to a degree of strength that excited my terror as well as wonder; but thinking farther of the matter, I recollected that he had applied his strength to that end of the lever which was farthest from the prop, and finding, on inquiry, that this was the means by which the seeming wonder was effected, I began making levers (which I then called bars), and by applying weights to them different ways, I found the power given by my bar was just in proportion to the lengths of the different parts of the bar on either side of the prop. I then thought it was a great pity, but what, by means of this bar, a weight could be raised but a very little way. On this I soon imagined that, by pulling round a wheel, the weight might be raised to any height, by tying a rope to the weight, and winding the rope round the axle of the wheel, and that the power gained must be

just as great as the wheel was broader than the axle was thick, and found it to be exactly so, by hanging one weight to a rope put round the wheel, and another to the rope that coiled round the axle, so that in these two machines it appeared very plain that their advantage was as great as the space gone through by the working power exceeding the space gone through by weight; and this property, I thought, must take place in a wedge for cleaving wood, but then I happened not to think of the screw. I then wrote a short account of the machines, and sketched out figures of them with a pen, imagining it to be the first treatise of the kind that ever was written.' So early did this author's genius for mechanics first appear; and from such small beginnings did that knowledge spring, for which he was afterwards so justly distinguished.

London and Sheffield Cutlery.

When the town of Sheffield first became famous for the manufacture of cutlery, a very curious knife, calculated for a variety of uses, was executed with great care, and sent to the Cutlers' Company in London. On one of the blades was engraved the following challenge:—

'Sheffield made both haft and blade;
London, for thy life, show me such another knife.'

The London cutlers, to show that they were not inferior to their more northern brethren, finished, and sent down to Sheffield a pen-knife, containing only one well-tempered blade, in which was a cavity, and in the cavity a piece of straw, fresh and unsinged. Some lines on the blade mentioning this fact, induced the Sheffield cutlers to break it, when they found the straw, and unable to account for the manner in which it was done, or to imitate it, they confessed themselves surpassed in ingenuity.

Arabian Water Clock.

The attention of artists in the East, was early directed to the automatical embellishment of horological machines. Bossuet gives an account of a clepsydra, or water clock, presented by the Caliph Haroun Alraschid, to Charlemagne, of a curious construction. Twelve small doors in the dial respectively opened at the hours which they represented; and little balls equalling the particular hour in number, falling out, struck the time upon a brazen bell. The doors continued open till noon, when twelve little knights, mounted on horseback, issued forth, one from each door; and having paraded round the dial, shut themselves in again.

English Clockwork.

Some years ago, two clocks of great ingenuity, and elegant workmanship, were made in London, and presented by the East India Company to the Emperor of China.

ach clock was in the form of a chariot, in which was placed, in a fine attitude, a lady leaning her right hand upon a part of the chariot; and under it was the clock, of various workmanship, little larger than a quill, that struck and repeated the hours, and that would go eight days. Upon the finger of the lady sits a bird finely modelled, and set with diamonds and rubies, with its wings expanded in a flying posture; and it actually flutters for a considerable time, on touching a diamond button below it. The body of the bird, though it contains part of the wheels that give motion to it, is not more than one-sixteenth of an inch in size. The lady holds in her left hand a gold tube, not much thicker than a large pin, on the top of which is a small round box, to which a regular ornament, set with diamonds, not larger than a sixpence, is fixed, which goes on and for nearly three hours, in a regular and instant motion. Over the lady's head, is a noble umbrella, supported by a small fluted pillar, no larger than a quill. Under the largest umbrella, a bell is fixed, at a considerable distance from the clock, with which seems to have no connexion; but, in reality, a communication is secretly conveyed to hammer, that regularly strikes the hour, and repeats the same at pleasure, by touching diamond button fixed to the clock below. At the feet of the lady, is a gold dog; before from the point of the chariot, are two wheels, fixed on spiral springs, the wings and feathers of which are set with stones of various colours, and appear as if flying away with the chariot, which, from another secret motion, contrived to run in a strait, circular, or indeed any other direction: a boy that lays hold of the chariot behind, seems also to push forward. Above the umbrella, are flowers and ornaments of precious stones; and it terminates with a flying dragon, ornamented in a similar manner. The whole is of gold, most delicately executed, and embellished with rubies and pearls.

Clock of Heidelberg.

In the tower of the town-house of Heidelberg, in Germany, there was, of old, a clock constructed, that when the hours struck, the figure of an old man pulled off his hat, a clock crowed and clapped its wings, soldiers fought with one another, &c.; but this curious piece of workmanship, with the castle and wren, were burnt by the French in 1693.

Want of Arms and Hands Supplied.

In the village of Ditcheat, four miles from Repton Mallet, Somersetshire, there was living, a few years ago, a man of the name of Kingston, who was born without arms or shoulders, but possessed, notwithstanding, the strength, power, and dexterity of the

ablest and most regular made men, and exercised every function of life. He fed, dressed, and undressed himself. Being a farmer by occupation, he performed the usual business of the field, foddered his cattle, made his ricks, cut his hay, caught his horse, and saddled and bridled him. He could lift ten pecks of beans, and throw a sledge hammer farther than any other man could; he had fought a stout battle, and come off victorious. His teeth, feet, and toes, were his only helps in these various operations; and it may readily be conceived, that great must have been the ingenuity which could make these equal to so many purposes to which they are naturally inadequate.

Specimen of Scottish Clock-work.

At Pittenween in Scotland, about fifty years ago, there was made and exhibited by Mr. Smith, clock and watchmaker of that place, an automatical clock, which, from the description given of it at the time, appears to have equalled anything of the kind ever produced; and to have comprehended a very striking illustration of the musical and religious character of the Scotch.

'The case,' says the description, 'which is of the finest mahogany, is seven feet high, with fluted columns on each side of the body; part of the flutes are filled with brass, gilt with gold, and brass Corinthian bases and capitals of the same. The head has columns at the corners, and capitals the same. The upper part of the head is ornamented with carving, fretwork, bird's eye, and gilding, with a golden bird, having its wings extended, standing on the middle of the head. This case contains a large eight-day musical clock, with three dial plates, and a chime of sixteen bells.'

'The work is divided in five different parts, each of which has its own particular weight. The first is the going part; the second drives a small musical barrel, which plays a pleasant chime at the first, second, and third quarters, and plays once over, a favourite tune, before striking the hour; the third part strikes the hour, and the fourth drives a large musical barrel, containing eight celebrated Scotch tunes, one of which it plays every three hours, with great exactness, playing all the strains twice, and the tune also twice over; the last part changes the tune. As soon as one tune is done, the clock plays all the eight of herself, in the twenty-four hours. The front dial plate, which is about fifteen inches large, has an arch, which shows the hours, minutes, and seconds, with the name and day of the month, without variation, throughout the whole year; even on the 28th of February, the clock turns out all the odd days in one night, and brings in the 1st of March next morning. In this plate there are also two small hands, one of which discovers the day of the week. When Sunday comes, the words cast up, are, "Remember Sunday,"

because at twelve on Saturday night, she stops plying till twelve strike on Sunday night, when she begins her music, and plays all the week till Saturday come again. The other hand stops the music, hours, and quarters, at pleasure.

The dial plate on the right hand is about eight inches, with an arch. It contains a hand that points to the name of the tune the clock plays, and can be set to play any of them one pleases; which she does by pulling a cord, and a small hand on the arch, by which she can be set to play common or treble time. The dial on the left hand is of the same size or dimensions as the one on the right. It represents the front of a house, with a door in the middle, and a front stair, with the king's arms on the arch. At each side of the door stands a sentinel with his arms, in the livery of the city guard of Edinburgh painted on brass. In the inside of the middle of the door, you see the mace to the lords of council and session, dressed in his robe, with the mace in his right hand; and as soon as the clock begins to play he takes off his hat with his left hand, walks past the door; then the fifteen lords, dressed in their robes, without hats, follow in procession. The whole is well painted on thin brass, and several of the lords are allowed to be striking likenesses. The whole procession very much resembles life.

Mr. Smith being asked by some gentlemen whether or not so many movements would be liable to go wrong, or hurt the going of the clock? he answered, not in the least, for that every part was distinct by itself, and there was rather less burthen on the going part, than in a plain eight-day clock.

A Crystal Summer House.

Furetiere has given a description of a very curious summer house, invented for the King of Siam, and which is in one of his country palaces. The tables, the chairs, closets, &c., are all composed of crystal. The walls, the ceiling, and the floors, are formed of pieces of ice, of about an inch thick, and six feet square, so nicely united by a cement, which is as transparent as glass itself, that the most subtle water cannot penetrate. There is but one door, which shuts so closely, that it is as impenetrable to the water as the rest of this singular building. A Chinese engineer has constructed it thus, as a certain remedy against the insupportable heat of the climate. This pavilion is twenty-eight feet in length, and seventeen in breadth; it is placed in the midst of a great basin, paved and ornamented with marble of various colours. They fill this basin with water in about a quarter of an hour, and it is emptied as quickly. When you enter the pavilion, the door is immediately closed, and cemented with mastic, to hinder the water from entering; it is then they open the sluices; and this great basin is filled, so that the pavilion is entirely under water,

except the top of the dome, which is left untouched, for the benefit of respiration. Nothing is more charming than the agreeable coolness of this delicious place, while the extreme fervour of the sun boils on the surface of the freshest fountains.

Blind Tailor.

The late family tailor of Mr. Macdonald, of Clanronald, in South Uist, Inverness-shire, lost his sight fifteen years before his death; yet he still continued to work for the family as before; not indeed with the same expedition, but with equal correctness. It is well known how difficult it is to make a Tartan dress, because every stripe and colour (of which there are many) must fit each other with mathematical exactness: hence it is that very few tailors, who enjoy their sight, are capable of executing this task. Blind Macquarrie having received orders to make for Mr. Macdonald a complete suit of tartan, within a given time, proceeded to work without delay. It so happened, that Mr. Macdonald passed at a late hour at night through the room where the blind tailor was working, and hearing some low singing, he asked, who was there? to which the poor blind tailor answered, 'I am here, working at your honour's hose.' 'How,' says the gentleman, forgetting that he was blind, 'can you work without a candle?' 'Oh! please your honour,' rejoined the tailor, 'midnight darkness is as clear to me as noonday.' In fact, by the sense of touch only, he was enabled to distinguish all the different colours in the tartan.

Invention of Stocking Frames.

At the close of the sixteenth century, William Lee, Master of Arts, and Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, first invented a stocking frame. Tradition attributes the origin of this curious invention to a pique he had taken against a town's woman with whom he was in love, and who it seems disregarded his passion. She got her livelihood by knitting stockings; and with the unamiable view of depreciating her employment, he constructed this frame. He first worked at it himself, and taught his brothers and others of his relations. He practised his new invention some time at Calverton, near Nottingham (which place has ever since been celebrated for its stocking manufactory), and is said to have worked for Queen Elizabeth.

Obtaining an Introduction.

A poor young fellow in France, who was destitute of employment, fixed his eye on a small office, the salary of which was far from being considerable. It was in the patronage of a nobleman, to whom the candidate had not access, but he was acquainted with M. de Ville, who pretended to have some influence

with the nobleman, to whom he promised to introduce him. This he neglected to do so long, that the purse and patience of the candidate were exhausted. In this dilemma, he resolved to do that for himself, which he deared off from the friendship of his acquaintance. Seeing the duke one day on the mall, he suddenly stepped behind him, and tapping him familiarly on the shoulder, exclaimed, 'Ah! how do you do, my old friend?' The duke turned round with astonishment, when the ingenious intruder assuming all the marks of embarrassment and confusion in his countenance, begged pardon for his mistake. 'I thank you, sir,' said he, 'for M. de Ville, whom I have been looking for all over the mall, as it is this day positively to introduce me to his highness the duke, a favour I have been expecting every day for nearly a month.' The nobleman smiled at the seeming singularity of the adventure, and replied, 'Pray what may be your business with his highness? I think I can possess some influence.' The candidate then explained his views, and his wishes, producing testimonials of his character and abilities. Great men are generally fond of such adventures, and this one ended to the satisfaction of both parties; the young man obtained the situation, and proved himself worthy of it.

Sham Capons and Hams.

The ingenuity of the Chinese is too often exercised for the purpose of fraud. Sometimes you will buy a capon, as you think, of Chinese, but find you have the skin of the rooster only, which has been so ingeniously filled, that the deception is not discovered until it is prepared for being dressed.

The Chinese also make counterfeit hams. These are made of pieces of wood cut in the form of a ham, and coated over with a certain kind of earth, which is covered with hog's bristles; and the whole is so ingeniously prepared, that a knife is necessary to detect the fraud.

A gentleman travelling in China some few years ago, purchased some chickens, the feathers of which were curiously curled. In a few days' time he observed the feathers straight, and that the chickens were of the most common sort. The Chinese had curled the feathers like a wig, a little before he sold the brood.

Gaming Finesse.

Lord Chesterfield used sometimes to amuse himself at billiards with Mr. Lookup, a professional gamester, and on one of these occasions, his lordship had the laugh turned against him, from an amusing piece of finesse on the part of his antagonist. Mr. Lookup had met with an accident, by which he was deprived of the sight of one of his eyes, though to any cursory observer, it appeared as perfect as the other. Having been the conqueror, even handed, against Lord C.,

Lookup asked how many his lordship would give, and he would put a patch on one eye. Lord C. agreed to give five, and Lookup beat him several games successively. At length Lord C. threw down his cue, saying, 'Egad, Lookup, I think you play as well with one eye as two.' 'I do not wonder at it, my lord,' replied Lookup, 'for I have seen only out of one eye these ten years.' With the money he won from Lord C., Lookup built some houses at Bath, which he jocularly called Chesterfield Row.

Chinese Mode of Fishing.

The following ingenious mode of taking fish, is said to be practised by the Chinese. A flat board, painted white, is fixed to the side of a boat, at an angle of about 45 degrees, the edge inclining towards the water. On moonlight nights, the boat is so placed, that the painted board is turned to the moon, and the rays of light striking on the whitened surface, give it the appearance of moving water; so that the fish are tempted to leap on it, as on their own element, when the boatman, raising the board with a string, turns the fish into the boat.

Bed-Ridden Mechanic.

James Sandy, of Alyth in Scotland, was entirely deprived, at an early age, of the use of his limbs; and during a long life, may be said to have been constantly bed-ridden. He contrived, notwithstanding, by dint of great ingenuity, not only to pass his time agreeably, but to render himself a useful member of society. He soon displayed a taste for mechanical pursuits, and contrived, as a workshop for his operations, a sort of circular bed, the sides of which being raised about eighteen inches above the clothes, were employed as a platform for turning lathes, table vices, and cases for tools of all kinds. His genius for practical mechanics was universal. He was skilled in all sorts of turning; and constructed several very curious lathes, as well as clocks and musical instruments of every description, no less admired for the sweetness of their tone than the elegance of their execution. He excelled, too, in the construction of optical instruments; and made some reflecting telescopes, the specula of which were not inferior to those finished by the most eminent London artists. He suggested some important improvements in the machinery for spinning flax; and we believe he was the first who made the wooden-jointed snuff-boxes, generally called Laureneekirk boxes, some of which, fabricated by this self-taught artist, were purchased, and sent as presents to the royal family. To his other endowments, he added an accurate knowledge of drawing and engraving, and in both these arts, produced specimens of the highest excellence. For upwards of fifty years, he quitted his bed only three times; and on these occasions his house was either inundated with water, or threatened

with danger from fire. His curiosity, which was unbounded, prompted him to hatch different kinds of birds' eggs, by the natural warmth of his body, and he afterwards reared the motley broods with all the tenderness of a parent; so that on visiting him, it was no unusual thing to see various singing birds, to which he may be said to have given birth, perched on his head, and warbling the artificial notes he had taught them. Naturally possessed of a good constitution, and an active cheerful turn of mind, his house was the general coffee-room of the village, where the affairs both of church and state, were discussed with the utmost freedom. In consequence of long confinement, his countenance had rather a sickly cast, but it was remarkably expressive, particularly when he was surrounded by his country friends. This singular man had acquired, by his ingenuity and industry, an honourable independence, and died possessed of considerable property. In short, his history holds out this very instructive lesson, that no difficulties are too great to be overcome by industry and perseverance; and that genius, though it should sometimes miss the distinction it deserves, will seldom fail, unless by its own fault, to secure competence and respectability.

Sympatnetic Correspondence.

Strada, in one of his prolusions, gives a curious account of a correspondence carried on between two distant friends, by the help of two magnetized needles. It is no doubt a pure chimera; but it is amusing, as showing how far philosophical conception can take the start of actual experience. The needles, we are told, were magnetized by the same loadstone, and that loadstone possessed such a virtue, that when one of the needles so touched began to move, the other, though at ever so great a distance, moved at the same time, and in the same manner. He tells us, that the two friends, being each of them possessed of one of these needles, made a kind of dial plate, and inscribed it with the four-and-twenty letters, in the same manner as the hours of the day are marked upon the ordinary dial plate. They then fixed one of the needles on each of these plates, in such a manner, that it could move round without impediment, so as to touch any of the four-and-twenty-letters.

Upon their separating from each other into distant countries, they agreed to withdraw themselves into their closets at a certain hour of the day, and to converse with one another by means of this invention. Accordingly, when they were some hundreds of miles asunder, each of them shut himself up in his closet at the time appointed, and immediately cast his eye upon the dial plate; if he had a mind to write anything to his friend, he directed the needle to every letter that formed the words he had occasion for, making a little pause at the end of every word or sentence, to avoid confusion. The friend in the mean-

while saw his sympathetic needle moving of itself to every letter which that of his correspondent pointed at. By this means they talked together across a whole continent, and conveyed their thoughts to one another in an instant, over cities or mountains, seas or deserts!

Sullivan, the Horse Breaker.

An Irishman, of the name of James Sullivan, a native of the county of Cork, who was an awkward and ignorant rustic, possessed the singular art of reducing the most refractory and spirited horse to almost instant obedience. His occupation was that of a horse breaker, and he was generally known by the name of the Whisperer, from a vulgar notion of his being able to communicate to the animal what he wished, by means of a whisper. How his art was acquired, or in what it consisted, was never known. The wonder of his skill consisted in the celerity of the operation, which was performed in privacy, and without any apparent means of coercion. Every description of horse or mule, whether previously broke or unhandled, whatever their peculiar vices or ill habits might have been, submitted, without show of resistance, to the magical influence of his art, and in the short space of half an hour became gentle and tractable. The effect, although instantaneously produced, was generally durable. Though more submissive to him than others, they seemed to have acquired a docility unknown before. When sent for to tame a vicious beast, for which he was paid more or less according to distance, but generally two or three guineas, he directed the stable in which he and the object of the experiment were placed, to be shut, with orders not to open the door until a signal was given. After a *tête-à-tête* of about half an hour, during which little or no bustle was heard, the signal was made, and, upon opening the door, the horse appeared lying down, and the man by his side, playing familiarly with him, like a child with a pup-dog. From that time he was found perfectly willing to submit to any discipline, however repugnant to his nature before.

'I once,' says Townshend, who relates the anecdote, 'saw his skill tried on a horse, which could never before be brought to stand for a smith to shoe him. The day after Sullivan's half-hour lecture, I went, not without some incredulity, to the smith's shop, with many other curious spectators, where we were eye-witnesses of the complete success of his art. This too had been a troop horse, and it was supposed, not without reason, that after regimental discipline had failed, no other would be found availing. I observed that the animal appeared terrified whenever Sullivan either spoke or looked at him; how that extraordinary ascendancy could have been obtained, it is difficult to conjecture.'

In common cases, this mysterious preparation was unnecessary; he seemed to possess an instinctive power of inspiring awe, the result, perhaps, of a natural intrepidity, in

which, it is most probable, a great part of his art consisted, though the circumstance of the *tête-à-tête* shows that upon particular occasions, something more must have been added to it.

A faculty like this, would, in other hands, have made a fortune, and great offers were made to him for the exercise of his art abroad; but hunting was his passion. He lived at home in the style most agreeable to his disposition, and nothing could induce him to quit Duhallow and the fox-hounds.

Modern Miracle Monger.

A priest in extreme poverty, resolved to get credit for a miracle. He put the yolks of several eggs in a hollow cane, and stopped the end with butter; then walking into an *dehousse*, he begged to fry a single egg for his dinner. The smallness of his repast excited curiosity, and they gave him a morsel of lard. He stirred the lard with his cane, and to the wonder of the surrounding peasants, produced a handsome omelet. This miracle established his fame; he sold omelets, and got rich by his ingenuity.

Horse-Racing by Machinery.

Mr. John Allan, of Penicuik, near Edinburgh, has constructed a curious machine, which impels two horses round a circle. The horses and riders have the exact attitude, and apparently all the animated emulation, of a well-contested horse-race, and have this necessary characteristic, that even the maker of the machine cannot say which of the horses will gain. To the curious in horse-racing, the invention is peculiarly interesting, as in bad weather they can enjoy the pleasure of a good race with comfort at their firesides. With a little more trouble, it might occasionally be converted to a fox-hunt, by affixing the necessary appendages of huntsmen and hounds.

Honest Arts.

When Queen Elizabeth first proposed to Dr. Dale, the famous civilian, to employ him on a diplomatic mission to Flanders, she told him, among other things, that he should have twenty shillings a day for his expenses, which at that time was thought a liberal allowance. Then, your highness, said the Doctor, 'I will spend nineteen shillings a day in your majesty's service.' 'What will you do with the odd shilling?' said the queen. 'Oh, I will reserve that for my wife and my two children.' This answer had the effect intended, and a considerable increase was immediately made in his allowance.

During Dr. Dale's stay in Flanders, he was notwithstanding pressed for money, and thought of a novel plan to get a supply; he put in a packet to the secretary of state, two letters; one to the queen, and the other

to his wife, which he misdirected, so that the letter to his wife was addressed, 'To her most excellent majesty;' and that to the queen, inscribed, 'To his dear wife.' The queen having opened the letter, was surprised to find it beginning with 'Sweetheart,' and afterwards interlarded with 'my dear,' 'my love,' and other affectionate expressions. It concluded with requesting her to be very economical, for he could send her nothing, as he was very short of money, and could not think of trespassing on the bounty of her majesty any further. Whether the queen suspected the trick, or believed in his necessities, is not certain; but an immediate supply of money was sent both to the Doctor and his family.

Blind Persian Prince.

Thevenot, in his travels, relates a singular instance of the ingenuity of a learned, but blind prince, he met with at Ispahan. 'He is,' says he, 'a very learned man, especially in the mathematics, of which he has books always read to him: and as to astronomy and astrology, he has the calculations read, when he writes them very quickly with the point of his finger, having wax, which he prepares himself, like small twine, less than ordinary packthread, and this wax he lays upon a large board or plank of wood, such as scholars make use of in some places, that they may not spoil paper when they learn to design or write; and with this wax, which he supplies, he forms very true letters, and makes great calculations; then with his finger's end he casts up all that he has set down, performing multiplication, division, and all astronomical calculations, very exactly.'

Royal Enchantment.

The Duke d'Antin, one of the courtiers of Louis XIV., distinguished himself to his sovereign by a singular art, which consisted not in saying agreeable things, but in doing them. The king being one day at the Château of Petitbourg, found fault with a large grove of trees which concealed the river from his view. The duke hearing this, caused the whole to be cut down in the night, and carried off. In the morning, when his majesty rose, he was astonished to find the prospect he wished for, and asked the duke if the castle were enchanted, as the trees had all vanished? 'No,' replied the minister, 'it is because your majesty cursed the trees, that they so suddenly perished.'

The duke finding this adulation acceptable to the king, carried it still farther on another occasion. Louis having found fault with a large wood at the end of the canal at Fontainebleau, the duke was determined to remove it. Accordingly, when his majesty next walked out, the duke having everything in readiness, ordered the wood to be thrown down, and instantly all the trees fell, as by magic, the courtier saying at the same time, 'Thus, sire,

do your enemies adore your greatness, by falling down before it.'

How to get Letters Free.

A shrewd countryman being informed that there was a letter for him in the post-office, accordingly went for it. On the postmaster's handing it to him, he frankly confessed he could not read, and requested the postmaster to open it, and let him know the contents, which he very readily did. After getting all the information he wanted, he knowingly shrugged up his shoulders, thanked him for his politeness, and drily observed, '*When I have some change, I'll call and take it!*'

Winning a Crown.

The Tyrians having been much weakened by long wars with the Persians, their slaves rose in a body, slew their masters and their children, and then seized on their houses, and their wives, whom they married. The slaves having thus got possession of all, consulted about the choice of a king; and agreed that he that should first discern the sun rise, should be king. One of them being more merciful than the rest, had, in the general massacre, spared his master Straton and his son, whom he hid in a cave; and to his old master he now resorted for his advice how to act in this competition. Straton observed to him, that it was probable every one would look to the east for the rising of the sun; but that if he would turn his eyes to the west, he would be sure to behold it first. The slave did as directed, and was much laughed at by his fellow competitors for acting in what they thought so absurd a manner: the result however showed how judiciously he had been advised. The light of the sun catching of course the highest pinnacles first, Straton's slave was the first to exclaim, that he beheld it on the spires of the city. The multitude turned round, and profoundly impressed with the ingenuity by which they had been thus outwitted, proclaimed the discoverer, king. The slave, however, candidly owned by whose advice he had thus acted; and by making use of the circumstance to impress on his brethren how vastly inferior in knowledge and skill they still were to the race of their ancient masters, prevailed with them, not only to sanction the restoration of Straton to liberty, but to accept of him in his stead as their sovereign.

Killigrew the Jester.

The jester Killigrew frequently had access to Charles II., when admission was denied to the first peers in the realm. Charles, who hated business as much as he loved pleasure, often disappointed the council, either by not attending, or withdrawing before the business was concluded. One day the council sat a considerable time in expectation of his ma-

jesty, when the Duke of Lauderdale, so distinguished for his haughty demeanour, quitted the room in a great passion. On his way, he met Killigrew, to whom he expressed himself more freely than courteously, respecting his majesty. Killigrew bade his grace be calm, for he would lay a wager of a hundred pounds that he would make his majesty attend the council in less than half an hour. Lauderdale took him at his word, and Killigrew getting immediate admission to the king, told him all that had happened, adding, 'I know your majesty hates Lauderdale, though the necessity of your majesty's affairs obliges you to receive him; now if you wish to get rid of a man you hate, come to the council, for Lauderdale is a man so boundlessly avaricious, that rather than pay the wager, he will hang himself, and never plague you more.' The king laughed at the observation, and attended the council.

Artificial Pearls.

Several modes have been resorted to by the ingenious, to make artificial pearls in imitation of real ones. At first it was conjectured, that it was possible to manufacture large pearls from a number of small or broken ones; but all endeavours to effect this, failed. The scheme of manufacturing globules of glass, and covering them with a substance resembling the appearance of pearls, which art could supply, was next tried; but it soon failed, because it was found that such semblance, although at first it seemed to approach very near the original, yet, when brought into the influence of heat, the beautiful pearly gloss was dissolved.

A French bead-maker, of the name of Jaquin, at length found out a method of preparing glass beads, like those at present used, approaching as near to nature, as it is perhaps possible; for the first idea of which, he was indebted to the following circumstance. When once at a country house at Passy, he observed that water in which those small fish called ables or ablettes (bleaks) were washed, was covered with fine silver-coloured particles. Suffering the water to remain, and the sediment to settle, he obtained from it a most beautiful powder, which had every lustre of the pearl. He also scraped the scales off the fish, and by this means, procured more, and called the white shining powder he thus procured, *essence d'orient*. At first he made small beads of paste or gypsum, which hardened by drying; then he covered them with this powder, by means of some adhesive substance. This invention was successful for some time, but it was found liable to the same objections as some of the preceding ones, that of not bearing heat. One of the ladies, however, who had been thus disappointed, suggested to M. Jaquin to form the pearls of small glass globules, and line them with his *essence d'orient*; the hint was taken, and the plan found to be excellent, and of easy process. To such an extent was it carried, that though

one man would blow six thousand of these globules in a day, Jaquin gave employment to a great number of hands and established an artificial pearl manufactory, that supplied all Europe.

In pearls thus made, it is usual for the maker to give some of them the appearance of occasional blemishes, that they may the nearer resemble nature. They are made occasionally of all figures, sometimes nearly circular, often elliptical, and sometimes between both. Some were formed flat on one side, and globular on the other, in imitation of those beautiful shells the French call *perles coques*, or *les coques de perle*, a production of the East Indies.

The trade of manufacturing these pearls is chiefly confined to France; though a considerable quantity are made in London, where fishermen catch bleak in the Thames for the sake of the scales, which they sell as high as four guineas a quart.

Successful Feints.

Pisistratus having undertaken an expedition against Attica, marched from Eubœa by the way of Pallene, and coming up with the van of the enemy, cut them all in pieces. Advancing forward, and meeting with a more numerous party, he ordered his men to put on crowns of garlands, and to kill none of their opponents, but to give out that they had made a league with the van. The deception passed off successfully, and Athens was delivered up to Pisistratus.

Pelopidas, the Theban, being about to besiege two small towns in Magnesia, at no great distance from each other, ordered, that at the time he proceeded against the one, four hundred horsemen, crowned, should approach with extraordinary cheerfulness, as if to announce victory from the other. To assist the device, he caused a wood between them to be set on fire, to induce a belief that it was the other town in flames; and farther, he ordered some soldiers, with the semblance of captives, to be brought in the train of the pretended conquerors. These appearances so astonished the besieged, that they believed themselves in part already vanquished, and surrendered without opposition.

General Putnam.

During the war in Canada, between the French and English, when General Amherst was marching across the country to Canada, the army coming to one of the lakes which they were obliged to pass, found the French had an armed vessel of twelve guns upon it. The general was in great distress, his boats were no match for her, and she alone was capable of sinking his whole army. In the situation in which it was placed. While he was pondering on what should be done, General Putnam came to him, and said, 'General, that ship must be taken.' 'Aye,' says Amherst, 'I would give the world she

was taken.' 'I'll take her,' says Putnam. Amherst smiled, and asked how? 'Give me some wedges, a beetle (a large wooden hammer or mallet, used for driving wedges), and a few men of my own choice.' Amherst could not conceive how an armed vessel was to be taken by four or five men, a beetle, and wedges. However, he granted Putnam's request. When night came, Putnam, with his materials and men, stole quietly in a boat under the vessel's stern, and in an instant drove in the wedges behind the rudder, in the little cavity between the rudder and ship, and left her. In the morning, the sails were seen fluttering about, she was adrift in the middle of the lake, and being presently blown ashore, was easily taken.

Rival Patents.

In the reign of James the Second, a watchmaker of the name of Barlow, obtained a patent, in conjunction with the Lord Chief Justice Allebone, for repeaters; but one Quare, making one at the same time, upon principles which he had conceived before the patent was granted to Barlow, the king tried them both, and giving the preference to Quare's, caused the circumstance to be notified in the gazette.

Strong, the Blind Artist.

Joseph Strong, who was born at Carlisle, was blind from his infancy, but was from his childhood remarkable for his ingenuity. When he was about fifteen years of age, he concealed himself one afternoon in the cathedral during the time of divine service. After the congregation was gone, and the doors closed, he got into the organ-loft, and examined every part of the instrument. This occupied his attention until about midnight, when having satisfied himself as to its general construction, he proceeded to try the tones of the different stops, and the proportions they bore to each other. This experiment could not be conducted in so silent a manner as his former enquiries; the noise alarmed the neighbourhood of the church, and the circumstance of the organist having died a short time before, and no successor being appointed, caused just consternation.

After some hesitation, a party, more courageous than the rest, ventured to enter the church, when the true cause of the alarm was discovered. The next day Joseph was taken before the dean, who, after reprimanding him for the steps he had taken to gratify his curiosity, permitted him to visit the organ at all seasonable times. He soon made himself sufficiently acquainted with its constitution, to enable him to make a chamber organ, which he completed without the assistance of any person. This instrument he sold to a merchant in the Isle of Man, who afterwards carried it to Dublin, where it was considered as a great curiosity.

Soon after disposing of his first organ, he

made another, which he kept for his own amusement, and on which he played a set of chants of his own composing.

Strong was brought up to the trade of a diaper weaver, and was a good and expeditious workman. At different times, he has dressed himself entirely with the work of his own hands; and when he walked from Carlisle to London, which he did to visit Mr. Stanley, the celebrated organist and composer, it was in a pair of shoes of his own making. It was to the mechanical arts he was most attached. In the exercise of these, besides making almost every article of household furniture, he constructed various pieces of machinery, one of which was the model of a loom, with the figure of a man working at it. As an appendage, he added a brace of puppets, representing two women buffeting each other, or, as he called it to his visitors, 'boxing for the web.'

Voltaire's Head.

During the extraordinary popularity which Voltaire enjoyed at Paris, the number of his portraits in circulation was immense. One ingenious artist, in particular, of the name of Huber, had acquired such a facility in forming his countenance, that he could not only cut most striking likenesses of him out of paper, with scissors held behind his back, but could mould a little bust of him in half a minute, out of a bit of bread; and at last used to make his *dog* manufacture most excellent profiles, by making him bite off the edge of a biscuit, which he held to him in three or four different positions!

Discovery of Felt Making.

The operation of felt making, like many other valuable arts, is said to have been discovered by mere accident. An illustrious personage, to keep his feet warm in winter, had wool put into his shoes. The moisture which the wool there contracted, and the action to which it was subjected between the feet and the shoe or sandal, combined with the natural heat of the body, caused the fleecy substance to consolidate into a rude sort of felt; and an attentive observation of this effect first gave rise to the idea of fabricating out of wool that very necessary appendage to the head—a hat.

Pictures of Mortality.

The Earl of Corke and Orrery, when at Florence, saw three representations in coloured waxwork, which ever afterwards struck his memory with horror and admiration. It is thus he describes them: 'One is the different progress of decay upon human bodies after death, from the moment they are laid in their dismal receptacle, to the last abolition of the flesh, a skeleton. The second is a most melancholy representation of persons either dead,

or dying of the plague. These are both in glass cabinets, preserved with the utmost nicety. They were executed during the reign of Ferdinand I., while the plague raged in Florence. The operator lived only to finish his work, and then fell a victim to the cruel pestilence which he had represented. The third (the first performance of the same artist) is a head. The skin from the skull is turned down from one side of the face, and the glands are plainly, too plainly, discovered. In viewing these pieces each spectator endeavours to fly, but cannot; he tries to turn away his eyes, but cannot; he stays against his will, and is chained against his inclination.

'Now get you to my lady's chamber, and tell her, let her paint an inch thick, to this complexion she must come at last.'

Zopyrus.

The Persians, for the space of eighteen months, had done all that force or stratagem were capable of to make themselves masters of Babylon; but all their efforts were fruitless, and Darius began almost to despair of taking the place, when a stratagem, till then unheard of, opened the gates of the city to him. He was strangely surprised, one morning, to behold Zopyrus, one of the chief noblemen of his court, and son of Megabyses, who was one of the seven lords that made the association against the Magians, make his appearance before him, all over blood, with his nose and ears cut off, and his whole body wounded in the most terrible manner. Starting up from his throne, he cried out, 'Who is it, Zopyrus, that has dared to treat you thus?' 'You, yourself, O king,' replied Zopyrus. 'The desire I had of rendering you service has put me into this condition. As I was fully persuaded that you never would have consented to this method, I have only consulted the zeal which I have for your service.' He then opened to him his design of going over to the enemy, and the manner in which he meant afterwards to render his pretended defection of service to Darius. The monarch acceded to the project, yet could not see him set out upon it without the utmost affliction and concern.

Zopyrus approached the walls of the city, and having told who he was, was soon admitted. The guard then carried him to the governor, to whom he laid open his misfortune, and the cruel treatment he had met with from Darius, for having dissuaded him from continuing any longer before a city which it was impossible for him to take. He then offered the Babylonians his service, which could not fail of being highly useful to them, since he was acquainted with all the designs of the Persians, and since the desire of revenge would inspire him with fresh courage and resolution. His name and person were both well known at Babylon; the condition in which he appeared, his blood, and his wounds, testified for him; and, by proofs not to be suspected, confirmed the truth of all he ad-

vanced. They accordingly implicitly believed whatever he told them, and gave him, moreover, the command of as many troops as he desired. In the first sally he made he cut off a thousand of the besiegers; a few days after, he slew double the number; and upon the third time, four thousand of their men lay dead upon the spot. All this had been before agreed upon between Zopyrus and Darius. Nothing now was talked of in Babylon but Zopyrus: the whole city strove who should extol him most, and they had not words sufficient to express their high value for him, and how happy they esteemed themselves in having gained so great a man. He was now declared generalissimo of their forces; and entrusted with the care of guarding the walls of the city. Darius approached with his army towards the gates, at the time agreed on between them: Zopyrus opened the gates to him, and made him by that means master of a city which he never could have taken either by force or famine.

Powerful as this prince was, he found himself incapable of making a sufficient recompense for so great a service; and he used often to say, that he would with pleasure sacrifice a hundred Babylons, if he had them, to restore Zopyrus to the condition he was in before he inflicted that cruel treatment upon himself. He settled upon him, during life, the whole revenue of that opulent city, of which he alone had procured him the possession; and heaped all the honours upon him that a king could possibly confer upon a subject.

Philosophy Instructing Ignorance.

As the Athenian forces were going on board their galleys, to proceed against Peloponnesus, and when Pericles was about to enter his own ship, a sudden and total eclipse of the sun ensued, and the earth was overspread with the deepest gloom. This phenomenon filled the minds of the Athenians with the utmost terror; superstition, and ignorance of natural causes, making them consider such events as fatal omens. Pericles seeing the pilot who was on board his ship, astonished, and incapable of managing the helm, threw his cloak over his face, and asked him whether or not he saw? The pilot answering that the cloak took away all objects from his sight, Pericles then gave him to understand that a like cause, viz. the interposition of that vast body, the moon, between his eyes and the sun, prevented his seeing its splendour.

National Competition.

In the *Western Herald*, an American paper, of the 26th of April, 1816, there appeared the following article.

Something for John Bull.—We always take great pleasure in reporting the progress of manufactures in the western country; because

we consider their extension, as the surest increase of our national wealth, and the best stimulus for agriculture, and the increase of our population. The following singular fact we deem well worthy of recording, for the information of John Bull, inasmuch as it will show the dispatch in which a piece of cloth was manufactured from wool from the sheep's back, until it was used as a garment for man. At Richard Brown's woollen factory, Holliday Cove, Va., four miles from Steubenville, the wool was shorn from a sheep in the morning, washed, carded, spun into yarn of eighteen cuts to the pound, woven, dyed, fulled, dried, shorn, and made into a coat, and worn, all in the space of twenty-four hours. What think ye of this, Mr. Bull?

The challenge conveyed in this article, roused the spirit of John Bull. He accordingly set to work, and performed the same work that was done at Mr. Brown's factory, in twelve hours and twenty minutes, being in very little more than half the time!

Messrs. Bock, Brewster, and Co., managers of the Ontario manufactory at Manchester, in Ontario county (says the *Canandaigua Messenger*), on hearing of John's feat, became sensible, from the perfection of their machinery, and dexterity of their workmen, that the same operations might be accomplished even in a shorter time. Immediately a wager of five hundred dollars was offered and accepted by the managers, that they would perform the same operations in twelve hours. The wool was taken from the back in its natural state, and in nine hours and fifteen minutes, precisely, the coat was completed and worn in triumph, by one of the parties concerned. The wool was picked, greased, carded, roped and spun, the yarn was warped, put into the loom and woven, the cloth was fulled, coloured, four times shorn, pressed, and carried to the tailor's and the coat completed, all within the time above stated. The cloth was not of the finest texture, but was very handsomely dressed, and fitted the person who wore it remarkably well.

Speaking Statue.

When M. Kempelen had been so successful in his automaton chess-player, he directed his attention towards the practicability of forming a speaking machine; at the same time limiting his expectations to the production of vowels only; for at the first he entertained no hopes of attaining consonants, far less did he deem it possible to unite them with vowels, and thus express words or syllables. In the course of his investigations, he tried all musical instruments, even horns and trumpets, with the view of finding which of them emitted sounds approaching nearest to the human voice; but although he found in the reeds of hautboys, clarionets, and bassoons, a faint resemblance to the functions of the human glottis; and he knew that a reed-stop, called *voce humana*, had been adapted to the organs, yet he consi-

dered his researches as at best ineffectual. At length, having accidentally heard the reed of a bagpipe, he conceived that it exceeded all others, in this respect, and thence made it the subject of his future experiments. M. Kempelen then proceeded to a minute and assiduous study of the mode in which the human speech is produced; and in ascertaining the possibility of producing the sounds of letters, he surmounted these difficulties, though it cost him a great deal of trouble. The proper combination of them, he saw must result from imitating nature in having only one glottis, and one mouth, from which all the sounds should issue, and where their union should be formed. His invention, therefore, terminated in constructing a machine which in some measure imitated the human speech.

This machine, which was of simple structure, consisted of only five parts: 1, the reed, representing the human glottis; 2, an air chest, with internal valves; 3, bellows or lungs; 4, a mouth, with its appurtenances; 5, nostrils, as in the living subject. The reed was formed in imitation of a reed of a bagpipe drone; and the tongue, which vibrated, consisted of a thin ivory slip resting upon it horizontally. This hollow portion or tube, was inserted in the air chest, and the discharge of air occasioning a vibration of the ivory, the requisite sound is produced. To soften the vibration, the part supporting the slip was covered with leather; and a moveable spring brought the sound of the reed to the proper pitch. One end of the air chest, received the voice pipe, containing the reed; and into the opposite end was inserted the mouth of the bellows.

The sound of M. Kempelen's speaking machine, was regulated in a great measure by the various modifications and compressions of the mouth. Four letters, D, G, K, T, he could never obtain perfectly, and, therefore, he substituted a P in expressing them; which was so managed, as to bear a considerable resemblance, according to the mode of using it, and was sufficient to deceive the auditor. Nevertheless, M. Kempelen could produce not only words, but entire sentences, such as *opera, astronomy, Constantinopolis; or vous êtes mon ami; je vous aime de tout mon cœur; Leopoldus secundus; Romanorum imperator semper Augustus*; and the like.

This machine, which was as remarkable for its simplicity, as its ingenuity, was first exhibited with the union of its essential parts; it afterwards had the illusion of an automaton like a child, and in both plans, was considered as having attained the very *acmé* of automatical science.

Steam Clock.

Although the first idea of the steam-engine is generally attributed to the Marquess of Worcester, and the first construction of one belongs to Captain Savary; yet, if we may believe history, Silvester II., who is commonly called Pope Silvester, being the most notorious of the name, made clocks and organs which

were worked by steam. The old historian expresses intelligibly to us, what he did not understand himself: *fecit arte mechanica orologium, et organa hydraulica, ubi, mirum in modum, per aquæ calefactor violentiam, implet ventus emergens concavitem barbiti, et permulti foratiles tractus æræ modulatos clamores emittunt.*

Prideaux, an older author than the biographer of Mahomet, but resembling him in blind and brutal bigotry, classes Silvester among the Egyptian magicians, by no means the worst of the orders into which he has distributed the Popes.

Waxen Anatomical Models.

An ingenious artist of Florence has formed models in wax, with so much accuracy, as to supersede the necessity of having recourse to the human body, for anatomical instruction and experiment. Some beautiful specimens of these models were, in 1818, presented to the anatomical theatre of the University of Oxford, where they are at present used in the study of anatomy.

A Rare Patrimony.

A young man of Nuremberg, says the *Journal* of that city, who had no fortune, requested a lawyer, who was his friend, to recommend him to a family where he was a daily visitor, and where there was a handsome daughter, who was to have a large fortune. The lawyer agreed, but the father of the young lady, who loved money, immediately asked what property the young man had? The lawyer said, he did not exactly know, but he would inquire. The next time he saw his young friend, he asked him if he had any property at all. 'No,' replied he. 'Well,' said the lawyer, 'would you suffer any one to cut off your nose, if he should give you 20,000 dollars for it?' 'What an idea! not for all the world!' 'Tis well,' replied the lawyer, 'I had reason for asking.' The next time he saw the girl's father, he said, 'I have inquired about this young man's circumstances. He has indeed no ready money, but he has a jewel, for which, to my knowledge, he has been offered and refused 20,000 dollars.' This induced the old father to consent to the marriage, which accordingly took place: though it is said, that in the sequel, he often shook his head when he thought of the jewel.

The Rebuilding of Athens.

After the war of Media, the Athenians began to rebuild their city, which had been almost entirely destroyed by the Persians; and farther proposed to surround it with strong walls, in order to secure it from future violence. The Lacedæmonians having intelligence of this, became apprehensive that if Athens, which was already very powerful by sea, should go on to increase in strength by

nd also, it might presume in time to give ws to Sparta, and deprive her of that uthority and pre-eminence which she had therto exercised over the rest of Greece. hey, therefore, sent an embassy to the thenians, to represent to them, that the comon interest and safety required that there ould be no fortified city out of the Pelopon- sus, lest, in case of a second invasion, it ould serve for a place of arms for the erians, who would be sure to settle them- selves in it, as they had done before at Thebes, nd who, from thence, would be able to infest he whole country, and to make themselves asters of it very speedily.

Themistocles, who, since the battle of Sal- mis, was held in great respect at Athens, asily penetrated into the true design of the acedemonians, though it was gilded over ith the specious pretext of public good ; but s they were able, with the assistance of their ilies, to hinder the Athenians, by force, from arrying on the work, in case they should ositively and absolutely refuse to comply with heir demand, he advised the senate to make se of cunning and dissimulation, to evade heir opposition. The answer, therefore, hich they gave to the envoys was, that they ould send an embassy to Sparta, to satisfy he commonwealth concerning their jealousies and apprehensions.

Themistocles got himself to be nominated one of the ambassadors, and persuaded the senate not to let his colleagues set out along with him, but to send them one after another. The matter was executed agreeably to his advice, and he accordingly went alone to Lacedemon, where he allowed a great many days to pass, without waiting upon the magistrates, or applying to the senate. On their at last pressing him to have his audience, and asking him the reason why he deferred it so long, he made answer, that he waited for the arrival of his colleagues, that they might all have their audience of the senate together ; and seemed to be very much surprised that they were so long in coming.

When a good many days had elapsed, his colleagues at last arrived ; but all came singly, and at some distance of time from one another. During all this time, the work was carried on at Athens with the utmost industry and vigour. The women, children, strangers, and slaves, were all employed in it ; nor was it interrupted night or day. The Spartans were not ignorant of the matter, and made great complaints on the subject. Themis- tocles, however, positively denied the truth of the information they had received, and pressed them to send other deputies to Athens, in order to inform themselves better of the fact, desiring them not to give credit to loose and flying reports without foundation. At the same time, he secretly advised the Athenians to detain the Spartan envoys as so many hostages, until he and his colleagues were returned from their embassy, fearing, not without good reason, that they themselves might be served in the same manner at Sparta. At last, when all his fellow ambassadors were

arrived, he desired an audience, and declared in full senate, that it was really true the Athenians had resolved to fortify their city with strong walls ; that the work was almost completed ; that they had judged it absolutely necessary for their own security, and for the public good of the allies ; telling them at the same time, that after the great experience they had of the Athenian people's behaviour, they could not well suspect them of being wanting in their zeal for the common interest of their country ; that, as the condition and privileges of all the allies ought to be equal, it was just the Athenians should provide for their own safety, by all the methods they judged necessary, as well as the other confederates ; that they had thought of this expedient, and were in a condition to defend their city against whoever should presume to attack it ; and that as for the Lacedemonians, it was not much for their honour that they should desire to establish their power and superiority rather upon the weak and defenceless condition of their allies, than upon their own strength and valour. The Lacedemonians were extremely displeased with this discourse ; but, either out of a sense of esteem and gratitude for the Athenians, or from a conviction that they were not able to oppose their enterprise, they dissembled their resentment ; and the ambassadors, after all suitable honours had been paid them, returned home rejoicing.

Getting out of a Scrape.

The doctrine of metempsychosis, or transmigration of souls, is still taught by the Brahmins of Malabar ; and an English captain had nearly fallen a victim to its effects. Trading along the coast, he one day went ashore, when he unluckily shot a bird called perumel, which is supposed to carry one of their gods of the first rank. A Malabarian saw it, and accused him of the enormous crime ; the people in the neighbouring villages immediately assembled, seized the sacrilegious Englishman, and would have sacrificed him on the spot, had it not been for the presence of mind of a Jew, who chanced to be present. He advised the captain to confess the crime, but to assign as his reason for committing it, that his father, who had been dead some time, was thrown into the sea, and was become a carp ; the perumel was going to devour the carp before his eyes, when the recollection of his father rushed upon him, and he shot the bird ! The judges were struck with the apparent justice of the plea, and instantly pardoned the criminal.

Use of the Toes.

It is remarkable to what excellent use the toes are applied in India. In England, it is difficult to say whether they are of any use at all ; but in Ind a, they are second fingers ; and in Bengalee are indeed called the 'feet fingers.' In his own house, a Hindoo makes

use of them to fasten the clog to his feet, by means of a button, which slips between the two middle toes. The tailor, if he does not thread his needle with his toes, twists the thread with them; the cook holds his knife with his toes, while he cuts fish, vegetables, &c.; the joiner, the weaver, and several other mechanical trades, all use them for a thousand purposes, for which an European would never think of employing them.

In England, however, there have been some instances of a more ingenious use of the toes, than any yet mentioned of the Hindoos. Some years ago, a maimed sailor in England used to write with his toes; and another person was exhibited, who not only wrote, but cut out watch papers, with great precision and ingenuity, with a pair of scissors, which she held in her toes. For a still more remarkable instance, see the Anecdote already given of 'The Want of Arms and Hands supplied.'

Flying in the Air.

Though the science of aërostation is of very modern date, yet there is strong reason to believe it was not altogether unknown to the ancients; one of their poets, speaking on the subject, says,

'Thus did of old the advent'rous Cretan dare,

With wings not given to man, attempt the air.'

Milton, in his 'History of Britain,' speaks of one Elmer, a monk of Malmesbury, who foretold the invasion of William of Normandy, but 'who could not foresee when time was the breaking of his own legs, for soaring too high. He, in his youth, strangely aspiring, had made and fitted wings to his hands and feet; with these, on the top of a tower, spread out to gather air, he flew more than a furlong; but the wind being too high, he came fluttering down, to the maiming of his limbs; yet so conceited was he of his art, that he attributed the cause of his fall to the want of a tail, as birds have, which he forgot to make and fix behind him.'

In an old book, entitled, 'An Account of a Voyage performed by two Monks in the suite of a French Ambassador, to the Kingdom of Siam,' we read as follows:

'One day the people at Siam entertained the French ambassador with the display of an excellent fire-work; and towards the conclusion thereof, they informed him they would perform the best piece, which was to blow up the engineer of the fire-work, on a cask, high into the air. As the ambassador thought that the engineer would be killed, he requested they would not perform this best masterpiece, and that he was already well entertained with what he had seen; but they told him he need not be under any apprehension for the engineer's life, as he would suffer no injury; on this, their assurance, the ambassador gave his consent.

'Accordingly, a cask was brought, on the head of which the engineer seated himself,

having in his hand a machine, which proved afterwards to be a large umbrella; some gunpowder was placed under the cask, and, on a signal given, it was set on fire, and the cask, with the engineer thereon, rose high into the air; and when at the highest elevation, the engineer opened his umbrella, and descended without any injury.'

As everyone knows that no such explosion of gunpowder could actually have taken place, without blowing the engineer to atoms, it has been very plausibly conjectured, that in the inside of the cask there must have been an air balloon, by which it was raised so high: that the firing of the gunpowder was but an artificial trick to veil the real means of ascent; and that the umbrella was nothing else but our modern parachute! If so, what becomes of our boasted inventions in aërostatics? for this exhibition at Siam must have taken place nearly a hundred and fifty years ago. The embassy to which the two monks who give this narration were attached, is the same as that which M. Voltaire has described in his works, and which took place in the year 1684.

Frederick the Great and Count Lusi.

A prisoner was one day brought, by order of Frederick the Second of Prussia, from Berlin to Potsdam, and conducted directly into his cabinet. 'Do you know these three letters?' said the king to him, with a stern look. 'Yes, your majesty.' 'Who wrote them?' 'I.' 'To whom were they addressed?' 'To the Doge of Venice, my august master.' 'You then acknowledge yourself to be a spy? You shall be hanged.' 'Your majesty, I am no spy, and I cannot acknowledge myself anything which I am not.' 'You must either die, or tell me which of my ministers acquainted you with the secrets of my cabinet. Take your choice!' 'I am acquainted with no person whatever, either in Berlin or Potsdam; nobody in all your majesty's dominions, except the landlord with whom I live. As your majesty has had me arrested and brought before you, you are doubtless too well informed respecting me not to know that I never speak of politics, either in my inn or anywhere else.' Notwithstanding this, the angry king continued for some time to address the prisoner with vehemence, till at last his curiosity gained the ascendancy. 'Well,' cried he, 'hence nobody; you shall be liberated as soon as you tell me by what means you have succeeded in knowing the most hidden of my secrets.' 'I know them all, your majesty, from yourself alone. On such and such a day, you made such and such news known at Berlin; not long after this, such and such articles were in the Nuremberg papers; and a little before or after that, I read in the Frankfurt and Vienna journals this and that article; now, as your majesty is not accustomed to do anything in vain, and you always reason very justly, I have attempted to follow the course

our ideas: and the result was, that your story must necessarily have formed the which I had sketched out.' 'Good heavens!' cried the astonished monarch, 'and poor sufferer, how is it possible that wise nobles do not know how to make use of you?' ('To the guard, in Germany. Unbind him, and go your way.') 'Of the country are you?' 'Of the country of Homer, of Cephalonia.' 'I immediately take you into my service, and create you a knight; and as soon as you receive your discharge from the doge, you shall go to St. Petersburg as my ambassador. Till that time, we shall speak on literary subjects.' 'Does not know that Frederick the Great did anything in vain? Count Lussan was from this time an ambassador twenty years at St. Petersburg.'

Breaking Evil Tidings.

When Edward the Third engaged the fleet of Philip of Valois, he did it with so much effect, as to strike a panic into the French; and the king, seeing the destruction with which they were threatened, jumped from their ships, although they could not disengage, into their boats; and more than four thousand are said to have perished in the waves. History hardly presents an instance of a naval victory more complete or more sanguinary; the French commanders dared not acquaint Philip with the disaster; but got the court buffoon to break it to his royal master. This jester one day, at the king's hearing, began by saying, 'wardly English,' 'dastardly English,' so on, that Philip inquired what he meant? 'Why,' says he, 'that in the great battle, you had not the courage to jump into the sea like the brave French and Normans.' This paved the way for the necessary explanation.

White Quakers.

The father of Mrs. Wright, the famous modeller in wax, was an American planter, well esteemed among his neighbours to be a very rich and a very honest man; that is, he had large tracts of land, houses, horses, oxen, sheep, poultry, and, in short, every kind of good thing and earthly grain *(besides ten children)*, which man can really want, for the support and comfort of life. Being, however, of the sect called Quakers, he became so singularly conscientious, that he could not bring himself to believe that God permitted man to spill the blood of animals for their daily food. He therefore neither eat flesh himself, nor permitted it to be eaten by any within his gates. His ten children were once ten years old before they tasted flesh. Instead of the modern boarding-school education of Britain, the daughters of this good man were instructed in the arts of the dairy, agriculture, and every branch of such useful and pastoral knowledge as tended to make

them good wives to men in the same humble and natural sphere of life which their father had set before their eyes. None of this Arcadian family ever appeared in any other dress from head to foot than in white apparel; and they became not only the objects of admiration and love of their surrounding neighbours, but the fame of his singular manner of life, his virtuous actions, and the general ingenuity of the whole family, was spread over all America. The genius of his ten children broke out in a variety of shapes, for though they were denied earthly masters, they had *the great Master of all nature* full in view; and their imitative powers burst forth like fruits in their season, and by the same hidden powers. They expressed juice from the herbs and flowers of the garden, and extracted gums from the trees of the forest; with these they made colours, and vied with each other which should excel most in the line of genius they pursued. In short, as has been expressively said, the sister arts in America *were then ten in number*. The fifth daughter, Mrs. Wright, became a modeller in clay, and to improve in her art, became so desirous of going to Philadelphia (where she then conceived all the then arts of the known world were to be seen), that, for the first time, she became forgetful of her filial duty; and eloped privately to that queen of American cities. Being greatly straitened in point of circumstances; she soon after gave her hand to a substantial Quaker, who had nothing but age and money to recommend him to her favour. This connexion, however, enabled her to buy such materials as she wanted and to pursue the bent of her genius. At length misfortunes befell Mr. Wright, and he died, leaving his ingenious wife, at the age of thirty-five, little else to maintain her family but the ingenuity of her head, and the cunning of her hands. Mrs. Wright afterwards came to England, and practised her art here with the greatest success.

Escaping a Bedlamite.

Sir Thomas More, the Lord Chancellor of England, lived at Chelsea, in a mansion with a court and gatehouse in front of it, according to the fashion of the time. From the top of this gatehouse, there was a most agreeable prospect, and here his lordship used frequently to sit in fine weather, accompanied by his dog. It happened one day, that a 'Tom o' Bedlam, a maniac vagrant, got upstairs while Sir Thomas was there, and coming up to him, cried out, 'Leap, Tom, leap!' at the same time attempting to throw his lordship over the battlements. Sir Thomas, who was a feeble old man, and incapable of much resistance, had the presence of mind to say, 'Let us first throw this little dog over.' The 'Tom o' Bedlam' threw the dog down immediately. 'Pretty sport,' said the Lord Chancellor, 'now go down and bring him up; then try again.' While the poor madman went down for the dog, his lordship made fast the door of the stairs, and calling for help, saved his life.

Parisian Fishwomen.

In the time of Louis XIV., the dauphin having recovered from a long sickness, the fishwomen of Paris, who then formed a sort of body corporate, deputed four of their troop to offer their congratulations. After some delay, the *ladies* were admitted by the king's special command, and conducted to the dauphin's apartment. One of them began a sort of harangue : 'What would have become of us, if our dear dauphin had died? We should have lost our all.' The king had, in the meantime, unexpectedly entered the room, and being extremely jealous of his power and glory, frowned at this ill-judged compliment; when another of the deputation, with a ready ingenuity, regained the good graces of his majesty, by adding, 'True, we should indeed have lost our all, for our good king could never have survived, and would doubtless have died of grief for the loss of his dear son.'

The Chinese.

The Chinese appear to have strong claims to the credit of having been indebted to themselves alone for the invention of the tools required in the primary and necessary arts of life. It has been observed, that in relation to common tools, such as the plane and anvil, whether in India or in Europe, in ancient or in modern times, they are found fabricated in the same form, denoting one common origin. In China alone, these tools have something peculiar in their constitution, clearly indicating that they are of original invention.

There is also reason to believe that not only inventions of the first necessity, but those of decoration and refinement, were known among the Chinese in remote antiquity. The annals of the empire bear testimony to the fact, and it is confirmed by a consideration of the natural progress of those inventions, and of the state of the Chinese artists of this time. In the first establishment of any art, it is practised awkwardly; and this state is supposed to continue stationary, until at length it advances to its second period, when it becomes improved, and the artist is enabled to avail himself to the utmost of every tool and machine that can assist him. The last period of perfection is that in which the artist is become so dexterous, as to complete his work with few or awkward tools, and with little or no assistance: and such is the character of the Chinese potter, weaver, worker in precious metals and in ivory, and of most others in the several trades commonly practised in the country.

The tools of every Chinese artificer are of a simple construction, and yet each tool is contrived to answer several purposes: thus the bellows of the blacksmith, which is nothing more than a hollow cylinder of wood, with a valvular piston, besides blowing the fire, serves for his seat when set on end, and as a box to contain the rest of his tools. The joiner makes use of his rule as a walking stick; and

the chest that holds his tools serves him as a bench to work on.

The Chinese are acquainted with all the mechanical powers, but none of them are applied on a great scale to facilitate and expedite labour. Simplicity is the leading feature of all their contrivances that relate to the arts and manufactures.

The Chinese have made little progress in any of the liberal arts, or abstract sciences; but whatever depends on mere imitation and manual dexterity can be executed as well and as neatly by a Chinese as by the most skilful artists of the western world; and some of them in a style of even superior excellence. In the cutting of ivory into fans, baskets, pagodas, nest of nine or more hollow moveable balls, one within the other, beautifully carved, the artists of Europe cannot attempt to vie with the Chinese; yet it does not appear that they practise any other means than that of working in water with small saws. As little can Europeans pretend to rival their large horn lanterns of several feet in diameter, perfectly transparent in every part, without a flaw or opaque spot, and without a seam, yet a small portable stove or furnace, an iron boiler, and a pair of common pincers, are all the tools that are required for the manufacture of these extraordinary machines. In silver filagree they are at least equal to the Hindoos; and their lacquered cabinets and other articles are exceeded only in Japan. They are not less expert in cutting tortoiseshell and mother of pearl, and all kinds of gems and stones. In all the metals they work with neatness, and if they do not make a lock or a hinge that an English artist would look at, it is only because a Chinese would not pay the price of a good one. Many other branches of the mechanical arts might be enumerated in which the Chinese may consider themselves as second to none; but those already mentioned are sufficient to exemplify their ingenuity and skill.

Origin of Gas Illumination.

In the year 1627 John Hacket and Octavo Strada obtained a patent for rendering coals and wood useful *without smoke*. There is no evidence to establish in positive terms that *illumination by gas* was here meant, though the language used seems scarcely open to any other inference; but in a work published at Frankfort in the year 1683, entitled 'Foolish Wisdom, or Wise Folly,' we have the conversion of coal and wood into gas and coke most distinctly claimed as the discovery of a preceding period.

'In Holland there is turf, and in England there are coals, neither of which are good for burning in apartments or in melting houses. I have, however, discovered a method of burning both these into good coals, so that they not only produce no smoke or bad smell, but yield as strong a heat for melting materials as that of wood, and throw out such flames, that a foot of coal shall make a flame ten feet long. This I have demonstrated at the Hague

with turf, and proved in England with coal, in the presence of Mr. Boyle, by experiments at Windsor, on a large scale. It deserves also to be remarked, that the Swedes procure their tar from fire-wood. I have procured tar from coal, which is in every respect equal to Swedish, and even superior for some purposes. I have tried it both on timber and ropes, and found it very excellent. The king himself ordered a proof of it to be made in his presence.

'This is a thing of very great importance to the English, and the coals, after the tar is extracted, are better for use than before.'

Slinging.

The doctrine of projectiles by means of slings appears to have been carried to a degree of perfection in the early ages unknown to modern times. We read in Scripture that the men of the tribe of Benjamin could throw a stone to a hair's breadth. The Romans, too, aware that if anything be simply thrown from the hand, it acquires no greater velocity than that of the hand which throws it, used to wrap a thong of leather round their javelins, by which they could throw them with additional force.

Some years ago an English sailor amused the people of London with a singular exhibition of dexterity in this species of projectiles. He was called Jack the Darter, and threw his darts, which consisted of thin rods of deal, of about half an inch in diameter, and a yard long, to an amazing height and distance. These darts he would frequently throw over the New Church in the Strand, or he could throw one horizontally the distance of eighty yards. He used to coil a small sling round the stick, by which he gave it a rotatory motion that preserved it from altering its course, and, at the same time, allowed the arm which threw it time to exercise its whole force.

Sentinels Cheated.

A gentleman of Savoy, who had fallen in love with a young countess at Dresden, found the utmost difficulty in getting access to her. A window belonging to the countess had indeed been quite conveniently arranged by the chambermaid to get in by; but certain sentinels, whose walk was in front of it, seemed to render all approach in that way impracticable. At length the gentleman ordered his valet-de-chambre to disguise himself, and steal by night to the sentinels, and divert their attention from the window. The man did as he was directed, went up to the soldiers, and, after some conversation, produced a bottle of brandy, of which he gave them a liberal allowance. He then showed them a stone of the pavement, which was in the walk of the sentinels, but remote from the window, and told them that he wanted this stone for a chemical experiment. He offered each of the grenadiers a louis d'or if they

would assist him, and dig up the stone with their bayonets. They took him for a fool, accepted his money, and he obtained what he wanted. In the meantime, his master slipped through the window unperceived.

The grenadiers quarrelling about the money, the story of the stone came out, and made a great noise, it being supposed that the robber of the stone was some Italian in disguise, who had carried off an invaluable jewel; nor was it until 1774, twenty-two years after the event, that the secret transpired.

Invaders made Friends.

Cypselus was king of Arcadia, when it was invaded by the Heraclidæ, to whom an oracle had declared that they ought to make a league with the Arcadians, if they received from them pledges of hospitality. As it was autumn, Cypselus ordered the country people to lay part of their fruits upon the highway, and then retire. The Heraclidæ having used the fruits, Cypselus advanced, and invited them to the feast of hospitality. Remembering the prophecy, however, they refused the offer. 'Nay, then,' says Cypselus, 'I must tell you that your army has anticipated you, and already received our fruits as pledges of hospitality.' The conclusion was not to be resisted; and thus, by the wisdom of Cypselus, the Heraclidæ were from enemies turned into friends.

The Confidant of Nature.

Hipparchus, the Bythinian, flourished about the hundred and sixtieth Olympiad. He has been called the prince of astronomers, from his discoveries, improvements, and reformations in the science of the heavens. Pliny makes frequent and honourable mention of this great man, and places him in the number of those sublime geniuses, who, by the prediction of eclipses, showed that men ought not to be surprised at these phenomena. Hipparchus extended his favourite science beyond Thales and others of his countrymen; for he made an ephemerides for six hundred years to come; he so carefully observed what concerned eclipses, that he found out the proportions of their intervals; he observed that the eclipses of the moon might return at the end of five months, and those of the sun at seven. He is also greatly admired for his knowledge of the stars, and for having described their number, situation, and magnitudes; and also for putting posterity in a capacity for discovering, not only whether they appear or disappear, but also whether they change their place and station in the heavens, and increase or decrease. He endeavoured to reduce to rule many new discoveries which he made; and invented new instruments, whereby he marked their places in the heavens. Finally, he recommended the knowledge of the heavens as worthy the study of mankind, and well fitted to recom-

pense the greatest labours. Pliny calls him, on this account, *the confident of nature*; and takes this occasion to bestow upon the cultivators of astronomical science an eulogy which is well deserving of quotation: 'Illustrious men! nay, more than men, who first discovered the laws by which those divinities were governed, and first set free the minds of men who used to tremble at eclipses, fearing they augured terrible calamities, or the extinction of those glorious luminaries. Hail! ye interpreters of Heaven, learned in the nature of all things and the discoverers of things, by which you have overcome both gods and men! for what mortal, seeing those wonders, and the stated labours of the stars, will not be content with the necessity to which his own nature is subjected!'

Magnificent Engraving.

In that splendid work, the 'Description of Egypt,' compiled by the French savans, and published under the direction of Bonaparte, it is said, that 'Of all the new results to which this work has given rise, or of which the arts in France had not made any application, the most useful is that for which we are indebted to the *inventive talent of M. Conté*. The serenity of the sky in Egypt could not be well expressed but by tints of great extent, and subjected to an uniform shading off. It was likewise necessary, in order to represent the smooth and spacious surface that serves as a ground to the Egyptian bas-reliefs, to employ equal tints, which, seen at a little distance, produce the same effect as a wash. Means have been contrived to engrave the skies and the grounds by the help of a machine, which supplies the place of a long and expensive labour; and the beauty of the execution surpasses everything which might be expected from the most experienced artist. Thus the use of this instrument, which has been extremely useful in the execution of the plates of architecture, has at once procured the most satisfactory results, and effected a considerable saving in the expense of engraving, and in the employment of time.'

Considerable injustice, we believe, is here done to a very meritorious artist of our own country. A great many years before the appearance of this description of Egypt, Mr. Lowry, the engraver, had invented a machine calculated to produce exactly the same effects as those for which M. Conté here receives credit. When General Andreossi was ambassador from France to this country, during the short peace of 1803-4, he was presented with several specimens of the sort of engraving produced by Mr. Lowry's machine; he must doubtless have shown them to the artists of his own country upon his return; and the least that can be inferred is, that they were thus stimulated to discover the means by which they were produced, and a second time invented, what Mr. Lowry must be allowed the credit of having been the first to conceive and accomplish.

Antidote to Infection.

Till within half a century ago, no means had been discovered of preventing the spread of infection in hospitals, lazarettos, prisons, and other such close and crowded places; every public journal furnished some new instance of the fatal ravages it committed. Means, as various as they were numerous, had till then been employed without success. Aromatic fires, combustion of sulphur, acetic vapours, had all been tried, but to no purpose. In 1773, a fever originating from the putrid air of a church employed as a cemetery committed such havoc in the city of Dijon, that nothing but the entire depopulation of the place was looked for. Gnyton de Morveau, who was then advocate-general to the parliament of Dijon, but who has established his fame on a basis of less questionable utility than anything in a lawyer's vocabulary, sensibly affected by the danger that threatened the community with which he was connected, turned his attention to the discovery of some yet untried product of chemical art, that might stay the progress of the pestilence. It is accordingly to his science and ingenuity thus stimulated, that the world is at length indebted for the discovery of an invincible opponent to contagion, in the gas resulting from the decomposition of muriate of soda by sulphuric acid. By means of this gas, the church, the gaols, and every other building of the city, was entirely freed from the infectious fever; and Dijon was saved.

At a subsequent period, Fourcroy, concluding that this muriatic acid gas possessed its pestilential virtue in consequence of the oxygen it contained, suggested that it should be employed in that state in which it comprehended the greatest proportion of oxygen. M. de Morveau, who, without entering into the theories explanatory of the effect, contented himself with the important results to be derived from it, having ascertained, by comparative experiments, that the oxygenated muriatic acid (chlorine) proposed by Fourcroy was actually of superior efficacy in most cases, lost no time in adopting the improvement; and thus established one of the most powerful means with which the magistrate, as well as the physician, can arm themselves to combat infection.

It is a circumstance singular enough to merit recording, that Morveau, to whom France is indebted for this and many other fruits of chemical science, became, as it were, a chemist by chance; and that the apparatus from which he drew such practical results, was formed out of the wrecks of a poor alchemist's laboratory. A young gentleman of Dijon, seduced by the promises of the adepts, had taken into his house as instructor in the secret art, one of those itincrast chemists who used to wander about the world in tatters, asking only for an alembic and furnace to produce untold riches. After six months of expensive and futile experimenting, the gentleman beginning to doubt the sincerity of his instructor, dismissed him about his business,

and went to drown his folly in the dissipations of the metropolis, leaving to M. de Morveau that apparatus and materials, with which he first commenced the practical study of chemistry.

A Time Smeller.

M. de Villayer, a member of the Academy of Sciences, who lived in the seventeenth century, exercised his inventive genius in constructing a chronometer, which might indicate to a sense never before consulted on such an occasion, that of taste, the time of day, or rather the time of the night. In our time, such an invention would have been considered as merely ingenious idling; but in the time of M. de Villayer, repeating watches were unknown. He, therefore, contrived a clock with a large dial, the figures of which were hollow; in these hollow figures, he placed variously flavoured sweetmeats; and when he wished to know the hour of the night, felt with his finger the position of the hand, and ascertained the hour by the taste of the sweetmeats.

The Father of Mechanics.

Archimedes was incomparably the most inventive and original of ancient mathematicians; he was well acquainted with the principles of equilibrium, hydrostatics, and catoptries; indeed, he may almost be said to have been the father of mechanics, for of all his discoveries, and perhaps no individual, either among the ancients or moderns, ever discovered so much, the most remarkable are those he made in mechanics, and the application of them to practice. Before his time, this branch of science did not exist. In his work on the 'Equilibrium of Bodies,' he gives a proof of the fundamental properties of the lever, which has never yet been surpassed in simplicity; and he applies his principles to find the centre of gravity of various spaces, with great ingenuity. In his work on the 'Floating of Bodies in Fluids,' he shows a complete insight into the nature of fluid equilibrium; and determines the position in which they float in some cases, which can by no means be considered as easy, even to modern mathematics. Indeed, without any addition to the principles of Archimedes, the doctrine of equilibrium was capable of being carried to its utmost extent, though among the ancients it appears to have stopped with him.

Numerous mechanical contrivances have been attributed to Archimedes; some of them, probably, only on account of the celebrity of his name. For instance, he is said to have been the author of an invention something like what are now called Chinese puzzles; in which certain angular pieces of ivory are to be put together, so as, by different arrangements, to produce the resemblances of various objects.

Archimedes seems to have turned much of his attention to the construction of machines

of extraordinary powers; and he boasted of the unlimited extent of his art, in the well-known expression, 'give me but a spot to stand on, and I will move the earth.' The mechanicians of that time employed themselves not merely in proving the possibility of making a given force move any weight, however large, but they studied to combine the best material means for carrying it into effect. Athenæus describes a ship of extraordinary magnitude, which Hiero caused to be made, with twenty ranks of rowers, and containing so enormous a space, as to have on board, gardens, baths, walks, a gymnasium, a large library, &c. This unwieldy mass, Archimedes is said, by means of some mechanical power, to have enabled Hiero to push into the sea, by his own individual strength.

Archimedes was, like all the mathematicians of that age, a diligent practical observer; and we are told that he thought he had discovered the distances of the heavenly bodies from each other, and from the earth; but that his measures were rejected by the Platonists, as not following that imagined accuracy of mathematical proportions, which they asserted must necessarily exist. Cicero speaks of an orrery, as we should call it, made by Archimedes, and exhibiting the motion of the sun, the moon, and the planets; which he uses as an argument against those who deny a Providence. 'Shall we,' says he, 'attribute more intelligence to Archimedes for making the imitation, than to nature for framing the original?'

By the ingenuity of Archimedes, the siege of Syracuse was long protracted; Polybius relates, that when the Roman fleet appeared sailing towards the city, it was assailed at a distance from the walls, by powerful machines, which threw darts and stones. Large levers were also made to project over the walls, from which iron claws were suspended; by these the Roman vessels were seized by the prows, and hoisted half-way up with such violence, as to be sometimes dashed under water, so that Marcellus observed, that 'Archimedes used his ships like buckets.'

There does not seem to be any reason to doubt these statements, which are confirmed by the universal consent of historians. In fact, while modern artillery was unknown, much greater attention was paid to improving those instruments which were used; and the effects produced, exceeded in many cases anything we should think possible, without the use of gunpowder. The powers which were employed, were sometimes the elasticity of large beams of wood, of which a gigantic bow was made, and worked by machinery; and sometimes the forces of cords, of different substances, which being violently twisted, were allowed to untwist, and thus to give motion to a lever inserted in them.

Though the study of mathematics is generally considered dry and repulsive, by persons not engaged in it; there seems to be few pursuits which have the power of exciting so strong and ardent an interest in the student. Like our own immortal Newton, Archimedes is said to have

required to be reminded of the common duties of eating and drinking, by those about him; and while his servants were placing him in the bath, he employed himself in drawing mathematical diagrams in the ashes which were spread on the floor, or in the oil with which his skin was covered. This abstraction made people say, as Plutarch informs us, 'that he was accompanied by an invisible siren, to whose song he was listening.'

A lively fancy might easily imagine a discoverer, in the enthusiasm of speculations, to be absorbed in his attention to the voice audible only to his ears, which revealed to him truths, concealed from all the world beside.

Progress of the Mechanical Arts.

If we inquire into the reason why the mechanical arts have so much got the start in growth, of the sublimer or speculative sciences, it will be found to proceed from our not being held in so much reverential awe, by former discoveries, in this department of knowledge. There was nothing which so much or so long retarded the progress of philosophy as a superstitious veneration for the ancients. Men who made Plato or Aristotle the standard of human knowledge, could never possibly transcend the learning of their models. All they could either presume or pretend to, was to arrive at the same height; but like water, never to rise above the source. In the mechanical arts, however, men have always ventured to act with great freedom, and been little, if at all, restrained by preceding achievements: no one has ever thought it a heresy to outlimn Apelles, or to outbuild the pyramids. It was never imputed to Galileo, except by the Holy Inquisition, that he saw farther into the celestial sphere than either Aristotle or Ptolemy. Those optic glasses which afford us so enlarged a view of the planetary system, are not the less esteemed, because they were unknown to the ancients; no more than that great secret in nature respecting the polar virtue of the loadstone, which Providence had reserved for the discovery of these later ages. Had the author of this happy and useful invention, one Flavius Goia, a Neapolitan, who lived about four centuries and a half ago, conceived the same narrow and superstitious notion with many of the moderns—that the ancients had exhausted all the stores, and explored all the mysteries of nature; we should at present have been committing ourselves, as of old, to the sole conduct of the stars, without venturing to sail out of sight of the shore, the greater part of the earth had remained yet unknown, and the pillars of Hercules continued still the *ne plus ultra* of the world.

The admirers of ancient wisdom do not seem rightly aware of its real source. It was because the ancients had nobody before *them* to copy, that they became themselves originals; for want of foreign aid they were obliged to exert their own native powers, and

exerted them with such imposing success. Had Homer or Aristotle lived in later times, and been imbued with the same spirit which has distinguished an age scarcely yet past, of copyists and commentators; the one would have sung the woes of Ithum in a canto from Virgil, and the other have written notes on Lucretius and Burgersdicius.

Men who will not exert, or try to exert, their own minds, are like to a certain rich man of Rome. At an annual expense, he maintained in his family some eminent persons skilled in all manner of science and literature, who sat always near him at table; and, whenever the conversation happened to turn upon learned and ingenious topics, they used to prompt him, one with a sentence from Seneca, another with a verse from Homer, somebody else with a problem from Euclid, or a prolusion from Strada, according to their respective provinces. All these, the ignorant and lazy patron thought himself entitled to the merit of, as he had paid for their learning; nor did he scruple to boast of the glorious luxury of thus *buying all his wit ready made*.

Value of Workmanship.

Of all manufactures, those of hardware are the most favourable to the encouragement of industry, the progress of labour, and skill. There is none that admits of such minute and subtle divisions and subdivisions of labour; of course there is none in which the workmen can be expected to attain to such perfection, both for dexterity, celerity, and neatness of execution, in the particular things about which they are occupied. There are no manufactures which carry to so great an extent, the adventitious value resulting from the labour and skill employed by the workman on the crude material; consequently, there is none that offers higher rewards to the exertions of industry. The value of the raw materials of hardware is as nothing compared with that of the finished fabrics. A chain was manufactured at Woodstock which weighed only two ounces, and cost one hundred and seventy pounds, being one hundred and sixty-three thousand, six hundred times the value of the original iron from which it was made! The same may be said of various manufactures in tin, copper, ivory, and even in silver and gold. The workmanship is nearly all in all!

Battle of the Dishes.

If we may give credit to some old authorities, the pastrycooks of former times possessed more ingenuity than they do at the present day. At great entertainments, it was formerly not unusual to exhibit a castle made of pastry, with gates, drawbridges, battlements, and portcullises; on the battlements of the castle were planted guns, made of the kex or hemlock, gilt; these cannons were charged with gunpowder, and regular trains laid, so that as many of them might be discharged at

once as was wished. The castle was placed at one end of the table, and at the other end was a ship, made also of pastry, with masts, sails, flags, and streamers; and guns charged with gunpowder, with a train, the same as in the castle. In the middle of the table was placed a stag made in paste, but hollow, and filled with red wine. A broad arrow was stuck in the side of the stag. Near it were placed two pies, made of coarse paste; one was filled with live frogs, and the other with live birds.

All being thus prepared, and placed in order on the table, a lady was first persuaded to draw the arrow out of the body of the stag, on which the red wine issued like blood out of a wound. The guns on one side of the castle were next, by lighting the train, discharged against the ship, which was quickly returned by a broadside from the vessel; the salvers on which the castle and ship were placed were then turned round, and the remaining guns of both discharged. The two great pies still remained untouched, when curiosity or entreaty inducing some person to raise the lid of one, the frogs jumped out, to the amusement of some, and the dismay of the others; on raising the lid of the other pie, out flew the birds, which naturally flying to the light, soon put out all the candles; and while all was thus rendered hurley-burly and confusion, a banquet in an adjoining room was announced as ready, and upon the table.

Blind Statuary.

Johannus Gambasius Volaterranus, who lived in the early part of the seventeenth century, was brought up as a statuary, and worked for twenty years at his profession with great reputation. Soon afterwards, he became totally blind; for ten years he lay totally idle, as far as regards working with his hands, but his mind was often employed in discovering some method by which he might recall and retain that glory which he had acquired as a statuary. The want of his eyes soon became so far compensated by the vigour of his mind, that he attempted what had hitherto been unheard of. He undertook to model in clay the effigies of Cosmo, the Grand Duke of Tuscany, taking for his pattern a marble statue of the duke, which he diligently felt and handled. 'He made it so lively and so like,' says the author of *Petites Services de Unguent Arnario*, from whom this account is taken, 'that all men were amazed at this miracle of art. Excited, therefore, with the excellency of the work, and the acclamations and applause of such as had beheld it, he came to Rome, in that ample theatre to present a specimen of his art. It was in 1636 he first framed the statue of Pope Urban the Eighth, so such an exact resemblance of him as was to the admiration of all men, and presented it to Urban himself. He afterwards made the statues of Duke Braccanus, of Giralduus, and others: when he lay sick at Onuphrius, and I, then his physician, he often promised me

his workmanship in my own, which I utterly refused, that my slight service should not be rewarded with so over great a recompense. When most men were amazed at this miracle, and suspected that he was not blind, he was commanded to work in a dark chamber, wherein he was locked up, where he finished divers pieces unto a perfect likeness, lively and strangely expressing the proper beauty of every face, the particular kind, the grave, affable, cheerful, or sad; as indeed they were: and to speak it in a word, he expressed them almost speaking, and the hidden manners in their lineaments; and thereby convinced all men of the excellence of his art. This was asserted by many noble persons, who were eye-witnesses, and that before Philippius Saracenus, the public notary, and so consigned over to public record, that future ages thence might not want occasion to give credit to this miracle.'

Clock of Lunden.

In the cathedral of Lunden, there is a curious clock, which, for the number of its figures and movements, may vie with those of Strasburg and Lyons. Every hour, two horsemen issue out to encounter, and a door flies open, which discovers the Virgin Mary on a throne, with Christ in her arms, the Magi with their retinue marching in order, and presenting their gifts, while two trumpeters are sounding to the procession. This clock also shows the month, day of the month, and every festival throughout the year.

Drawing Iron Wire.

Queen Elizabeth formed a corporation, to which she granted various exclusive privileges, for the purpose of encouraging the art of mining in England. She also invited many foreigners into England, offering them free permission to dig for metallic ores. Among these foreigners, was Christopher Schultz, a native of Annaberg, in Saxony, who was particularly skilled in finding calamine, and in making brass. He introduced the method of drawing iron wire by means of engines; which, before the seventh year of Queen Elizabeth's reign, had been drawn by the strength of men in the forest of Dean. This wire was principally used in making bird-cages, and cards for combing wool.

Hanging Bridge of Schaffhausen.

At Schaffhausen, a frontier town of Switzerland, the Rhine is so extremely rapid, that it had, in former times, destroyed several bridges of stone, built upon arches of the strongest construction. At length a carpenter of Appenzel offered to throw a wooden bridge, of a single arch, across the river, which it would be in the power of no torrent to sweep away.

The magistrates of Schaffhausen, however, insisted that it should consist of two arches, and that he should make use, for that purpose, of the middle pier of the old bridge, which remained entire. Accordingly, the architect was obliged to obey; but he has contrived it in such a manner, that the bridge is not at all supported by the middle pier; and it certainly would have been equally safe, and considerably more beautiful, had it consisted solely of one arch. It is a wooden bridge, of which the sides and top are covered, and the road over is almost perfectly level: it is what the Germans call a *hängewerk*, or hanging bridge; the road not being carried, as is usual, over the top of the arch; but, if we may use the expression, is let down into the middle of it, and there suspended.

The middle pier is not absolutely in a right line with the side ones, that rest upon the shore, as it forms with them a very obtuse angle, pointing down the stream, being eight feet out of the linear direction. The distance of this middle pier from the shore, that lies towards the town, is one hundred and seventy-one feet; and from the other side, one hundred and ninety-three; in all, three hundred and sixty-four feet; making, in appearance, two arches of a surprising width, and forming the most beautiful perspective imaginable, when viewed at some distance. A man of the slightest weight walking upon the bridge, feels it tremble under him; and yet waggons heavily laden pass over it without danger; and although in the latter instance the bridge seems almost to crack with pressure, it does not appear to have ever suffered the least damage. It has been compared, and very justly, to a tight rope, which trembles when it is struck, but still preserves its firm and equal tension.

When the greatness of the plan, and the boldness of the construction, are considered, one is astonished that the architect was a common carpenter, without the least proficiency in learning, totally ignorant of mathematics, and not at all versed in the theory of mechanics. The name of this extraordinary man was Ulrick Grubenman, an obscure drunken fellow of Zuffen, a small village in the canton of Appenzel. Possessed of uncommon natural abilities, and a surprising turn for the practical part of mechanics, he raised himself to great eminence in his profession, and may justly be considered as one of the most ingenious architects of the past century. This bridge was finished in three years, and cost ninety thousand florins; about £8000 sterling.

Negro Machinist.

In the year 1819, a negro of the state of New York, exhibited the model of a machine which he had constructed, for cutting, threshing, and winnowing wheat, rye, &c., all at one operation. The machine is constructed to be moved by one horse; it enters

a field of wheat, or rye, &c., and taking a whole ridge at once, cuts, threshes, and winnows the grain, fit for the mill or market, and that without waste, or leaving anything behind to be cleaned. This operation can be performed as fast as the usual pace at which a horse walks.

This machine may be divided, and that part which cuts and gathers the grain, only used; when it is calculated that two horses, and one man to attend on them, will cut and gather the grain of twenty-five acres of land in one day.

Theatre of Puppets.

'Among other sights in Milan,' says a traveller, 'I went to Girolamo's theatre of puppets (*le Marionette*), and laughed more than at any exhibition I ever beheld. You may perhaps think this was childish enough entertainment; so it was. But you don't know it, nor have you ever seen anything like it, nor anything so superlatively ludicrous. The puppets were about five feet, or perhaps less, in height; and Girolamo, the master and owner of the theatre, was the animating soul and voice of these grotesque images. He had to speak and modulate his voice in the characters of nine or ten different *dramatis personæ*, male and female. He was, of course, invisible. After an overture from a most miserable orchestra, in which there was neither time nor tune, nor anything like tolerable music, the curtain, on which was a very clever painting, drew up, and a little deformed black, in a suit of brown, with scarlet stockings, and an immense cocked hat, moved forward upon the stage, and began a soliloquy, which was interrupted by the entrance of another strange figure, a female, who entered into a smart dialogue with the little black, whose gestures, grimaces, and contortions of limb, were amazingly absurd, although perfectly in unison, in point of time and Italian manner, with the recitation which seemed to proceed from his inflexible lips. Had it not been for a certain awkward rigidity in their sidelong motions, when moving from one part of the stage to another, and for the visibility of the wire attached to their heads, and descending from the roof above the stage, one might have been deceived for a little, into a belief of the animal existence of these strange personages. They walked about very clumsily, to be sure; but then they bowed, and curtsied, and flourished with their arms, and twisted themselves about, with as much energy and propriety of effect, as most of those worthy living puppets who infest the stages of the little theatres in London. There were two skeletons, who played their parts admirably. They glided about, and accompanied their hollow-voiced speeches with excellent gesticulations, while their fleshless jaws moved quite *naturally*. Then, to crown all, there was a *ballet* of about a dozen of these puppets; and they danced with all the agility of Vestris, and cut much higher

than ever he did in his life. They actually did cut extremely well while in the air. You know the technical meaning of that word in the dancing-master's vocabulary. All the airs and graces of the French opera-dancers, their *piroettes*, spinning round with a horizontal leg, &c., were admirably quizzed. One of these dancers, dressed like a Dutchman, stopped short, after a few capers, and, drawing a snuff-box from his pocket, took a pinch; then replaced the box, and set off again with a most exalted example of the *entrechat*. His partner helped herself, from a *pocket-pistol*, to a dram, and then recommenced her furious exertion.

The Philosopher's Stone.

The orientalists imagine, that among other requirements, the Europeans are in possession of the philosopher's stone, and some among themselves are not wanting, who pretend to this gift. When Mr. Kinneir, who travelled through Asia Minor, and the neighbouring countries, in 1813 and 1814, was at Bassora, Mr. Colquhoun, the acting resident at that place, received a message from an Arabian philosopher, who supplicated his protection from the cruel and continued persecution of his countrymen. Having been informed that he had the power of transmuting the basest metals into gold, they daily put him to the torture, to wring his secret from him. He added, that he would divulge everything he knew to Mr. Colquhoun, provided he was permitted to reside in the factory. He accordingly retired, and soon afterwards returned with a small crucible, and chafing-dish of coals; and when the former had become hot, he took four small papers, containing a whitish powder, from his pocket, and asked Mr. Colquhoun to fetch in a piece of lead; the latter went into his study, and taking four pistol bullets, weighed them, unknown to the alchemist; these, with the powder, he put into a crucible, and the whole was immediately in a state of fusion. After the lapse of about twenty minutes, the Arabian desired Mr. Colquhoun to take the crucible from the fire, and put it into the open air to cool; the contents were then removed, and the residuum proved to be a piece of pure gold, of the same size as the bullets. The gold was afterwards valued at ninety piastres.

'It is not easy,' says Mr. Kinneir, 'to imagine how a deception could have been accomplished, since the crucible remained untouched by the Arab after it had been put upon the fire; while it is, at the same time, difficult to conceive what inducement a poor Arab could have had to make an English gentleman a present of ninety piastres. Mr. Colquhoun ordered him to return next day; which he promised to do; but in the middle of the night, the Sheik of Grane, with a body of armed men, broke into his house, and carried him off.'

Mr. Kinneir says, 'Whether this unhappy man possessed, like St. Leon, the art of making gold, we are not called on to determine.' Now,

although we conceive the Arabian philosopher just as capable of transmuting metals as the immaculate St. Leon, so aptly quoted by Mr. Kinneir, we still are sceptical enough to suppose that there was abundance of time to fuse a solid mass of gold during the absence of Mr. Colquhoun; and afterwards to waste the lead by the natural progress of oxidation, aided by a strong fire.

Chinese Life Preserver.

The Chinese use a life preserver which, though perfectly safe, is of the simplest construction; it merely consists of eight bamboos, of about six or seven feet long; two of these are placed horizontally before them, and two behind; and these are crossed by two on each side. The whole are properly secured, leaving a space for the body, so that it can easily be put on over their heads, and tied securely in a minute, in case of any emergency. With these bamboos, they cannot possibly sink.

The Oxford Dragon.

Jacob Bobart the younger, and son of a German horticulturist of the same name, who superintended the Physic Garden in Oxford, in the seventeenth century, once played an ingenious hoax on the learned of that university. He found a large dead rat in the garden, and transformed it by art into the shape of a dragon, as represented in old and curious books of natural history, particularly in Aldrovandus. This was shown to various learned men, all of whom believed it to be a genuine and invaluable specimen of the dragon. Many fine copies of verses were written by the literati, in honour of Bobart and his matchless discovery, and persons flocked from all parts to see it. Bobart owned the cheat some years after, but it was for a long time preserved as a masterpiece of art.

Battle of Mantinea.

In the opinion of the greatest masters of the art of war, there never was anything of the kind more skilful, or more singular, than the arrangement of the Theban army on the plains of Mantinea, where their leader, Epaminondas, lost his life, in achieving his greatest victory. Although superior in the number of his men, he thought it prudent to omit nothing that might possibly contribute to the success of the battle; and never did he employ more art to deceive an enemy, and to conceal from them his intended order of fight.

The Lacedemonian army was encamped at the foot of Mount Parthemus; and that of the Thebans, on the declivity of the same hill. Epaminondas, without regarding the order of the Spartans, whom he did not doubt of disconcerting by the singularity of his attack, formed his men before moving from the place of encampment. On his left wing,

which was destined to charge the Lacedæmonians themselves, he posted his Thebans and Arcadians, being the flower of his army; the Argives composed his right; the Eubœans, Sicyonians, and Locrians, occupied his centre; and the cavalry was disposed along the wings.

After informing every corps of the order in which it was to fight, he instantly changed his disposition, put his army in motion, and, in a moment, appeared in a single line, as if intending to march. He advanced, indeed, towards the enemy; but, from the disposition of his troops, they were convinced that he meant to decamp. Still more to deceive them, after continuing his march for some time, he at once halted on an eminence, and caused all his infantry to ground their arms. This behaviour persuaded the Lacedæmonians that Epaminondas intended to encamp. Their officers were the first deceived, and accordingly quitted their stations; the soldiers, after their example, left their ranks, and thus the whole Lacedæmonian army, which had till then continued in battle-array, breaks, and disperses all over their camp.

This was the effect that Epaminondas had foreseen and expected. As soon as he perceived the Lacedæmonians in the disorder of an army quietly retiring to their quarters, from a belief that there was nothing more to be feared, he commanded his men to recover arms, and advanced quickly to the attack. The enemy, in amazement, run in haste to recover their ranks, and form with all possible expedition.

They think of nothing now, but to act on the defensive; Epaminondas's troops being already formed, while they were hardly begun to make their disposition. Notwithstanding their surprise, however, they threw themselves into the form of a phalanx. The Athenian auxiliary horse take post on one wing, the Lacedæmonian cavalry on another. Their precipitation produces confusion; and, on viewing the excellent order of the Theban army, they could expect nothing but a certain defeat. One part of the Theban horse had already placed themselves in front of the Athenians, to overawe and prevent them from taking their infantry in flank. The rest opposed the Lacedæmonian cavalry. Epaminondas had interspersed among his horse small parties of excellent Thessalian slingers and archers, a precaution which the Lacedæmonians had neglected. As soon as his cavalry had taken their station, Epaminondas, who had, till now, led on his army in the form of a phalanx, with a single line, all of a sudden orders the extremity of his right wing to halt; and, at the same time, advances briskly with the left wing, in an angular form, with the point of which, as with the beak of a galley, to use Xenophon's expression, he charges the centre of the enemy.

He had the precaution to place in this wing his choicest troops, which were, besides, sustained by those of the other wing, the last extremity of which extended to this formidable point in which he now advanced. His

intention was to bear down the centre of the Lacedæmonians, and then to charge them in flank, to right and left, when, after being thus divided, they might be more easily overpowered. In the first part of this design, he completely succeeded; and had he, after breaking the enemy's centre, only adhered to the plan of turning quickly on their wings, victory would have cost the Thebans less blood than it did, and, in all probability, his own life would have been spared. But forgetting the general in the soldier, he continued dealing out destruction on the broken centres of the enemy, till, by the reunion of their wings, he was at length separated from his own troops, and only rescued with the greatest difficulty, to know, before he died of his wounds, that the victory to which his ingenuity so much contributed, had not been lost by his valorous indiscretion.

Harald Haardrade.

When Harald Haardrade served the Emperor of Constantinople, and carried on war in the Mediterranean, and adjacent countries, he is said to have displayed great ingenuity in taking the places he besieged. He once caused a report of his death to be spread. His men mourned his loss, in their camp; and at length requested leave to inter his remains in the town which they were besieging. The enemy very simply consented. A coffin was accordingly borne towards the town, followed by numerous mourners, who were Haardrade's own men, with concealed arms under their clothes. The gates being opened, the party entered, followed up closely by others of his troops. Harald then made his appearance, and his men threw off their disguise, which so intimidated the inhabitants, that they immediately surrendered the town.

Extraordinary Wire Bridge.

Near Philadelphia, a wire bridge has been constructed of singular strength and lightness, for although it extends over a space of upwards of four hundred feet, and is sufficiently strong to bear almost any number of persons upon it, yet the whole weight of the bridge does not amount to more than 4702lbs.: including the wire, 1314lbs.; wood work, 3380lbs.; and 8lbs. of nails.

Four men, it is said, would do the work of a similar bridge, in two months of good weather, and the whole expense would not exceed three hundred dollars.

Pfiffer's Model of Switzerland.

The name of Pfiffer deserves, if it has not already acquired, an eminent place in the history of art, for the ingenuity, skill, and perseverance with which he has given to his native country, a more complete description of its topography, than is possessed by any other country on earth. 'It is,' says Mr.

Cone, 'a model in relief'; the principal part is composed of wax, the mountains of stone, and the whole is coloured; several mountains, as well as their form, are distinguished. General Pfäfer has already been employed in this work about ten years; with the utmost patience and assiduity, he has himself raised the plans upon the spot, taken the elevations of the mountains, and laid them down in their several proportions. The plan is so minutely exact, that it takes in not only all the mountains, lakes, rivers, towns, villages, and forests, but every cottage, every torrent, every bridge, and even every cross, is distinctly and accurately represented.

In the prosecution of this laborious performance, he has been twice arrested for a spy; and in the popular cantons, has frequently been forced to work by moonlight, in order to avoid the jealousy of the peasants, who think their liberty would be endangered, should so exact a plan be taken of their country. As he is obliged to remain some time upon the top of the Alps, where no provision can be procured, he generally carries with him a few she goats, whose milk supplies him with nourishment. Indeed, his perseverance in surmounting all the difficulties that necessarily have arisen in the course of this undertaking, is almost inconceivable. When he has finished any particular part, he sends for the peasants who reside near the spot, especially those who hunt the chamois, and bids them examine accurately each particular mountain; whether it corresponds, as far as the smallness of the scale will admit, with its natural appearance, and then, by frequent retouching, he corrects the deficiencies. He takes all his elevations from the level of the lake of Lucerne, which, according to M. de Saussure, is about fourteen hundred and eight feet above the Mediterranean.

This model, exhibiting the most mountainous parts of Switzerland, conveys a most sublime picture of an immense body of Alps, piled one upon another, as if the story of the Titans were realised, and they had succeeded at least in one part of the globe, in heaping in Ossa upon a Pelion, and an Olympus upon in Ossa. The general informed me (and it is somewhat remarkable) that the tops of the Alps, which cross Switzerland in the same line, are nearly of the same level, or in other words, there are continued chains of mountains of the same elevation, rising in progression to the highest range, and from thence gradually descending, in the same proportion, towards Italy.

Stupendous Lifts.

In the year 1782, Catherine, Empress of Russia, erected an equestrian statue of Peter the Great, at St. Petersburg. This statue, which was executed by M. Falconnet, was raised on an enormous pedestal of granite. When Falconnet had conceived the design of this statue, the base of which was to be formed

of a huge rock, he carefully examined the environs of the city; and after considerable research, discovered a stupendous mass of granite half buried in the midst of a morass. The expense and difficulty of transporting it, were no obstacles to Catherine. By her orders, the morass was immediately drained; a road was cut through a forest, and carried over the marshy ground; and the stone, which, after it had been somewhat reduced, weighed fifteen hundred tons, was removed to St. Petersburg. This was accomplished in less than six months after the rock was discovered. It was removed by means of a windlass and large friction balls, alternately placed, and removed along grooves fixed on each side of the road. In this manner it was drawn, with forty men seated upon its top, about four miles, to the banks of the Neva, where it was embarked in a vessel constructed on purpose to receive it; and thus conveyed about the same distance by water to St. Petersburg.

When landed at Petersburg, it was forty-two feet long at the base, thirty-six at the top, twenty-one thick, and seventeen feet high; a bulk greatly surpassing in weight the most boasted monuments of Egyptian or Roman grandeur. On this pedestal, Falconnet raised a spirited statue of colossal size, of the founder of St. Petersburg.

In the year 1795, a priest of Bologna, in Italy, invented a machine to remove walls from one place to another. A trial being made to enlarge by this means the choir of St. Michael's Church, a wall, fourteen feet long, twenty feet high, and thirteen inches thick, was removed a distance of three yards, in the space of seven minutes.

Wonders of the Chisel.

In the church of St. Severo, at Naples, there are some statues of very extraordinary workmanship. One represents a female, covered with a veil, which is most happily executed in marble, and has all the effect of a transparency. There is another of the dead Christ, covered with the same thin gauze veil, which appears as if it were moist with the cold damp of death. Both of these pieces were the work of a Venetian of the name of Corradine. There is also a statue of a figure in a net, the celebrated work of Queirato, a Genoese, which is a model of pains and patience. It is cut out of a single block; yet the net has many folds, and scarcely touches the statue.

The Four P.'s

M. Pontac, a French magistrate, of great abilities, but extremely indolent, having retired to his country seat, to divert himself during the summer season, a suitor went to him to solicit a final determination of a cause which had been many years protracted. He arrived just as the president was going to

mount for the chase. M. Pontac being of a facetious disposition, bade him stay till he came back, and in the meantime to amuse himself with finding out the meaning of the letters that were over his gate, viz., four P's. When M. Pontac came back from the chase, he found his dangle suitor. 'Well, my friend,' says the judge, 'have you made out the inscription?' 'Yes, my lord, that I have.' 'Aye, well, what is it?' 'It is *pauvre plaideur, prenez patience*.' (Poor pleader, pray have patience). The real signification of the letters was, *Peter Pontac, Premier President*; but M. Pontac was so pleased with the new turn ingeniously given to them, and so admonished by the reproof it conveyed, that the cause was decided next day.

Simplifying Instruction.

A Highland piper having a scholar to teach, thus initiated him into a knowledge of semi-breves, minims, crotchets, and quavers. 'Here, Donald,' quoth he, 'tak ye're pipes, mon, and gie us a blast.' But as we cannot make him in character speak Erse, we may as well make him talk English, and his lesson will be better understood. 'Here, Donald,' said he, 'take your pipes and gie us a blast. —So! very well blown indeed! But what is sound, Donald, without sense? You may blow on to all eternity without making a tune of it, if I do not tell you how the queer things on that paper must help. You see that fellow with the white round open face, (pointing to a semi-breve, between the two lines of a bar) he moves slowly from that line to this, while you beat one with your foot, and take a long blast; if now you put a leg to him, you make two of him, and he'll move twice as fast. If you blacken his face thus, he'll run four times faster than the first fellow with the white face. And what think ye, after blackening his face thus, if you bend his knee, or tie his legs, he will hop you still eight times faster than the white-faced fellow I showed you first. Now, whenever you blow your pipes, Donald, remember this; the tighter those fellows' legs are tied, the faster they will run, and the quicker they are sure to dance.'

Duke of Bridgewater and Mr. Brindley.

Few improvements of modern times have contributed so much to increase the internal commerce and wealth of this country as canal navigation. For this important feature in the scientific history of the eighteenth century, we are indebted to the Duke of Bridgewater, whose magnificent plans have rendered his name so celebrated in canal navigation. These plans were first commenced in 1758, 1759. Possessing an extensive property at and near Worsley, rich in coals, which could not by land-carriage be conveyed to Man-

chester, so advantageously as those from the pits on the other side of that town, the duke was naturally led to consider of a better mode of conveyance. A formerly projected, but unexecuted, scheme of making Worsley brook navigable to the Irwell, evidently suggested the design; but the original and commanding abilities of his engineer, that wonderful self-instructed genius, James Brindley, pointed out a much more eligible mode of effecting his purpose, than by means of the waters of a winding brook, subject to the extremes of overflow and drought. A canal was cut, which, at its upper extremity in Worsley, enters a hill by an arched passage, partly bricked, and partly formed by the solid rock, wide enough for the admission of long flat-bottomed boats, which are towed by means of hand rails on each side. This passage penetrates near three quarters of a mile, before it reaches the first coal works. It there divides into two channels, one of which goes five hundred yards to the right, and the other as far to the left, and may be continued at pleasure. In the passage, at certain distances, air-funnels are cut through the rock, issuing perpendicularly at the top of the hill. The arch at the entrance is about six feet wide, and about five in height from the surface of the water. It widens within, so that in some places the boats may pass each other. To this subterranean canal the coals are brought from the pits within the bowels of the hill, in low waggons, holding about a ton each; which, as the work is on the descent, are easily pushed or pulled by a man along a railed way, to a stage over the canal, whence they are shot into one of the boats. These boats hold seven or eight tons, and several of them being linked together, are easily drawn out, by the help of the rail, to the mouth of the subterranean passage, where a large bason serves as a dock. Hence they are sent along a canal to Manchester, in strings, drawn by a horse or two mules. It was the principle of this, as it has been that of all Mr. Brindley's canals, to keep on the level as much as possible; whence it has been necessary to carry them over the roads or streams, upon arches, after the manner of an aqueduct, and to fill up the vallies by artificial mounds for their conveyance, as well as to cut down or bore through hills. The most striking of all the aqueduct works, is in this first canal, where it passeth over the navigable river Irwell at Barton Bridge. The aqueduct begins upwards of two hundred yards from the river, which runs in a valley. Over the river itself it is conveyed by a stone bridge of great strength and thickness, consisting of three arches; the centre one is sixty-three feet wide, and being thirty-eight feet above the surface of the water, admits the largest barges navigating the Irwell to go through with masts and sails standing. The spectator was, therefore, here gratified with the sight of one vessel sailing over the top of another, a thing never before beheld in this country; and those who had at first ridiculed the attempt as equivalent to building a castle in the

air, were obliged to join in admiration of the wonderful abilities of the engineer by whom it had been accomplished.

This canal, after passing Barton Bridge, was conveyed on the level with great labour and expense, in a circuitous track of nine miles to Castlesfield, adjacent to Manchester. The most remarkable part of its course, is that where it crosses the low grounds near Stræford, upon a vast mound of earth, of great length, the construction of which exercised all the inventive powers of the conductor.

Several other canals were afterwards constructed by the duke under the direction of the ingenious Mr. Brindley. In one of them the canal crosses the small river Bollin, which running in a tract of low meadows, has made a mound in that part, necessary for the conveyance of the canal, of a height, breadth, and length, that forms a spectacle truly stupendous. The principle of keeping the level has been rigorously pursued, in defiance of expense and difficulty, for the whole length of the canal, till it is brought in full view of the Mersey at Runcorn. There it is precipitately lowered ninety-five feet, in a chain of locks, of admirable construction, furnished at different heights with capacious reservoirs of water, in order to supply the waste incurred by the passage of vessels.

But a greater and more adventurous project in canal navigation still remained. It was desired to form a canal from Leeds to Liverpool, a distance of upwards of a hundred miles, which was much augmented by the very winding course which the nature of the country demanded. The work was so difficult and expensive, that nothing but the extraordinary zeal with which schemes of this kind now began to be pursued, could have impelled the persons concerned to put it to execution. The fall from the central level is, on the Lancashire side, five hundred and twenty-five feet; on the Yorkshire side, one hundred and forty-six feet.

Since this time, canal navigation has been extensively and successfully prosecuted in various parts of the country: but never with enter ability than that displayed by James Brindley, who may almost be considered as the father of the art.

Indian and Spaniard.

A Spaniard traversing a desert part of Mexico, on a lean and jaded horse, met with an Indian extremely well mounted on a young and vigorous steed. The Spaniard asked the Indian to change horses with him, but this being refused, he proceeded to violence, and forcibly seized the animal. As the Indians are remarkably swift of foot, he kept close at the oppressor's heels, till they arrived at the village, where he complained to the chief, or magistrate, of the injustice that had been done him. The Spaniard finding this, the impudence to claim the beast as his own, and there being no proof of the contrary,

but the Indian's bare word, which would go but a little way against a native Spaniard's, the magistrate was on the point of dismissing him, when all at once, appearing to recollect himself, he slipped off his cloak, and exclaimed, 'The horse is mine, and I will prove it;' at the same instant, miffing up the animal's head, he turned to the Spaniard, and said, 'Since you maintain the horse to be yours, tell this magistrate whether he be blind of the right or left eye?' 'Of the right,' said the Spaniard. 'Tis false!' replied the Indian, 'he is blind of neither!' and immediately pulling off the cloak, convinced the magistrate of his being the real owner.

In and Out.

A valet to a nobleman at Paris, returning late at night to his master's hotel, was refused admittance by the Swiss porter, on account of his having exceeded the hour at which their lord had ordered the gates to be closed for the night. After many entreaties, to no purpose, to be let in, the valet at length slipped half-a-crown under the door, and the porter taking the hint, gently admitted him. When he had rubbed his shoes, he feigned to have left his leathern purse upon a stone outside, after drawing the half-crown from it, and begged the Swiss to step out and pick it up for him. This worthy door-keeper accordingly began his search, and groped about in every direction, to no purpose, calling out that he could see nothing of it; but when he would have returned, he found the door closed upon himself in his turn. 'Why, how's this?' said the porter, 'you know I let you in just now.' 'True,' said the valet, 'but not without a previous ceremony; come, you know the price of admission.' The Swiss, finding he was likely to sleep in the street, was fain to comply, and he laughed at in his turn.

The Bridge of Ronda.

Over the river Guadiaro, in Spain, and near the city of Seville, there are two very remarkable bridges. The city is placed on a rock, with cliffs, either perpendicular and abrupt towards the river, or with broken crags, whose jutting prominences, having a little soil, have been planted with orange and fig-trees. A fissure in this rock, of great depth, surrounds the city, on three sides, and at the bottom of the fissure, the river rushes along with impetuous rapidity. Two bridges are constructed over the fissure; the first is a single arch, resting on the rocks on the two sides; the height from the water, is one hundred and twenty feet. The river descends from this to the second bridge, whilst the rocks on each side as rapidly increase in height: so that from this second bridge to the water, there is the astonishing height of two hundred and eighty feet! The Monument, near London Bridge, if placed on the water, might stand under this stupendous arch, without its top nearly reaching to it.

The mode of constructing this bridge, is no less surprising than the situation in which it is placed, and its extraordinary elevation. It is a single arch of one hundred and ten feet in diameter; it is supported by solid pillars of masonry, built from the bottom of the river, about fifteen feet in thickness, which are fixed into the solid rock on both sides, and on which the ends of the arch rest; other pillars are built to support these principal ones, which are connected with them by other small arches.

'It is impossible,' says a late traveller, 'to convey an adequate idea of this bridge; from below, it appears suspended in the air; and when upon the bridge, the river beneath appears no longer a mighty torrent, but resembles a rippling brook. When standing upon the bridge, the optical delusion is very singular; the torrent of water appears to run up a hill towards the bridge, and the same phenomenon takes place, when viewed in either direction.'

De Corcuera.

About the middle of the 16th century, Frey Rodrigo de Corcuera invented a mill which worked like a clock, a model of which he laid before Charles V. It was considered as an invention of considerable importance in a country where running streams are scarce, and calms frequent; and the emperor ordered him to erect one at Aguilar de Campos; but the ingenious artist died before it was completed. The same monk presented Maximilian with a sword, which, by means of a spring, shot out a point of diamond with such force, as to pierce the strongest breast-plate.

The American Indians.

Courage, art, and circumspection, are the essential and indispensable qualifications of an Indian warrior. When war is once begun, each one strives to excel in displaying them, by stealing upon his enemy unawares, and deceiving and surprising him in various ways. On drawing near an enemy's country, they endeavour, as much as possible, to conceal their tracks; sometimes they scatter themselves, marching at proper distances from each other, for a whole day, or more, meeting, however, at night, when they keep a watch; at other times they march in what is called *Indian file*, one behind the other, treading carefully in each other's steps, so that their number may not be ascertained by the prints of their feet. The nearer they suppose themselves to be to the enemy, the more attentive they are to choosing hard, stony, and rocky ground, on which human footsteps leave no impression; soft, marshy, and grassy soils are particularly avoided, as they would lead to detection.

In some instances, the Indians deceive their enemies by imitating the cries or calls of some animal, such as the fawn or turkey. They do

this so admirably well, that they ever draw the dam of the one or the mate of the other, to any spot to which they want them to come. In this manner they often succeed in drawing enemies to the place where they are lying in ambush, or get an opportunity of surrounding them. In the same manner, when scattered about in the woods, they easily find each other out by imitating the song of some birds, such as the quail and the rook, and sometimes the owl.

Skill of the Indians in Tracking.

In the summer of the year 1755, a most atrocious and shocking murder was unexpectedly committed by a party of Indians, on fourteen white settlers, within five miles of Shamokin. The surviving whites, in their rage, determined to take their revenge by murdering a Delaware Indian, who happened to be in those parts, and was far from thinking himself in any danger. He was a great friend to the whites, was loved and esteemed by them, and, in testimony of their regard, had received from them the name of Duke Holland, by which he was generally known. Holland, satisfied that his nation was incapable of committing such a foul murder, in a time of profound peace, told the enraged settlers that he cared not for his own life, but for the honour of his tribe, he entreated they would immediately send a party along with him, and he would engage, ere the sun went down, to bring them on the heels of the actual murderers. The proposal was agreed to, and Duke Holland, accompanied by a party of the settlers, set out on the pursuit. They soon found themselves in the most rocky part of a mountain where not one of those who accompanied him was able to discover a single track, nor would they believe that man had ever trodden upon this ground, as they had to jump over a number of rocks, and, in some instances, to crawl over them. Now they began to believe that the Indian had led them across those rugged mountains in order to give the enemy time to escape, and threatened him with instant death, the moment they should be fully convinced of the fraud. The Indian, true to his promise, would take pains to make them perceive that an enemy had passed along the places through which he was leading them; here he would show them that the moss on the rock had been trodden down by the weight of a human foot; there, that it had been torn and dragged forward from its place; further he would point out to them, that pebbles or small stones on the rock had been removed from their beds by the foot hitting against them; that dry sticks, by being trodden upon, were broken; and even, that in a particular place, an Indian's blanket had dragged over the rocks, and removed or loosened the leaves lying there, so that they lay no more flat, as in other places; all which the Indian could perceive as he walked along, without even stepping. At last, arriving at the foot of the mountain on soft ground, where

the tracks were deep, he found out that the enemy were eight in number; and from the freshness of the foot-prints, he concluded that they must have encamped at no great distance. This proved to be the exact truth; for, after gaining the entrance on the other side of the valley, the Indians were seen encamped, some having already laid down to sleep, while others were drawing off their leggings, for the same purpose, and the scalps they had taken were hanging up to dry. 'See,' said Duke Holland, to his astonished companions, 'there is the enemy! not of my nation, but Mingoes, as I truly told you. They are in our power; in less than half-an-hour, they will all be fast asleep. We need not fire a gun, but go up and tomahawk them. We are nearly two to one, and need apprehend no danger. Come on, and you will now have your full revenge!' But the whites, overcome with fear, did not choose to follow the Indian's advice, and urged him to take them back by the nearest and best way. He did so accordingly, and when they arrived at home, late at night, they reported the number of Iroquois to have been so great, that they durst not venture to attack them.

This Duke Holland once found a watch which had been sent from Pittsburgh, by a man who got tipsy, and lost it in the woods, about fifty miles from the place to which he was carrying it. Duke Holland went in search of it, and having discovered the tracks of the man to whom it had been entrusted, he pursued them until he found the lost article, which he delivered to the owner.

The Bamboo.

The various uses to which that elegant species of reed, called the bamboo, is applied by the Chinese, would excite astonishment in an English mechanic. Their chairs, their tables, screens, bedsteads, and bedding, with many other household moveables, are entirely constructed of this hollow reed. It is used on board ship for poles, for sails, for cables, for rigging, and for caulking. In husbandry, it serves as a material for carts, wheelbarrows, or wheels to raise water, for fences, for sacks to hold grain, and a variety of other purposes. The young shoots furnish an article of food, and the wicks of candles are made of its fibres. It serves to embellish the garden of the prince, and to cover the cottage of the peasant. Indeed, there are few uses to which the ingenuity of the Chinese has not applied the bamboo, either entire, or split into thin laths, divided into fibres.

The Warwick Vase.

England is indebted to the late Sir William Hamilton for the many beautiful specimens of antique vases, which adorn the mansions of its nobility and gentry. Having less pleasure in the possession of such treasures, than in satisfying the good taste of his countrymen, making them public, he distributed them to a most liberal hand, to those who felt

their beauty, and appreciated their importance. Among the presents which he thus made, was that boast of Grecian sculpture, the vase of Lysippus. The individual honoured with the gift of this chef-d'œuvre, was the Earl of Warwick, by whose name the vase has since been more generally known.

Mr. Thoma on, of Birmingham, having conceived the noble idea of making a fac-simile of the great vase, entirely in metal, was permitted, by the earl, to have free access to it, in order to make a model of it in wax. This was a task of several months. When the model was completed, casts of it were then made in lead, and from these the vase was completed in two distinct sorts of metals, the field of one metal, and the handles, vines, masks, panther skins, and leaves, of another. This adoption of two metals, gave Mr. Thomason an opportunity of adopting two novel modes of oxidation, by which the most beautiful effects of light and shade were produced. The oxidating of the field was accomplished by a combination of the sulphates and nitrates, urged on by a powerful heat, which has produced the desired appearance of the rouge antique marble. The masks, handles, and parts in relief, are oxidated by the acetates, and resemble the verd antique bronze; and the harmony of these two colours, produces an effect at once grand and imposing.

This vase is twenty-one feet in circumference, and weighs several tons; and when its size and execution are considered, it is, perhaps, entitled to rank as the grandest specimen of metallic sculpture in its style, that has ever appeared in this or any other country. Being made of imperishable materials, it will not only hand down the name of Mr. Thomason with honour to future ages, but it will serve as a perpetual record of the taste which has been so happily cultivated in the town of Birmingham. Whilst England possesses manufacturers so public spirited, and artists so zealous, it need not apprehend being surpassed in fine and classical workmanship, by any foreign competitors.

This stupendous undertaking was begun in the 54th year of the reign of King George the Third. Two hundred and eleven medals of different subjects, including one of King George the Fourth, all made at the manufactory, were sealed up in an antique urn, and deposited in the centre of the pedestal, upon which the vase was raised, by the efforts of about fifty of the workmen, in celebration of his present majesty's accession to the throne.

The vase remains at Mr. Thomason's establishment, in a room admirably adapted for exhibiting it to advantage, and is very liberally shown by that gentleman to all cultivators and admirers of the arts.

Double Joints.

'During our last stay at Prairie du Chien,' says Schoolcraft in his 'North-Western Tour through America,' 'we observed a remarkable instance of natural deformity in the person of

an Indian, who had just come in from the interior. This singular being was provided by nature with double the usual number of joints in each arm and leg, by which means he was rendered in a measure helpless, and unable either to stand or walk. By an effort of savage ingenuity, however, his redundancy of joints was made the means of procuring locomotion, by coiling his legs in a large wooden bowl, in which he rolled himself along over a smooth surface with considerable facility. The powers of his mind were not, however, in the least affected by his corporal degradation; but appeared, on the contrary, vigorous, and superior to the generality of his tribe. He spoke several Indian tongues, and conversed fluently in the French language, as it is generally spoken by Canadian voyageurs and north-west traders; and his whole countenance bespoke intelligence and mental activity.'

The Wonderful Egg.

In the year 1819, there was exhibiting in Boston, in America, a wonderful egg, said to have been found at a farmhouse near Bordeaux, having thereon the following inscription:

'Ceci avertit, que Napoléon Bonaparte, remontera sur la trône de France, le 15me Novembre, 1818.'

'This is to give notice that Napoleon Bonaparte will reascend the throne of France, November 15, 1818.'

The advertiser says, 'This egg was boiled for breakfast and discovered by a Lieutenant Patterson, of the British army; and was sold in London, in September, for three hundred guineas.'

We should hardly have supposed that the good-folks of Boston could be deceived by such a miserable hoax as this. Nothing is more simple or easy than the art of making inscriptions upon eggs. Write any words you please upon an egg, with grease, and boil the egg in lime water, with a little onion juice; or place the egg in strong vinegar for a few hours, and the inscription will appear prominent. We have likewise seen letters raised upon an egg so ingeniously as hardly to be discovered, with no other instrument than a sharp penknife. The Yankee who can manufacture *wooden nutmegs* can make *prophetic eggs* with as little trouble or expense.

Self-Taught Navigator.

A schoolmaster in the navy, of the name of Rymer, the author of a book called the 'Practice of Navigation on a New Plan,' gives the following eccentric account of the manner in which this new plan originated. 'At that time,' says he, 'I had not the smallest systematical knowledge of navigation, and often wondered at my own ignorance, when I reflected upon the length of time I had been at sea. I had often heard them talk of difference

of latitude and departure, allowance for leeway, variation of the compass, heave of the sea, the action of tides and currents, without in the least comprehending what was meant. All of a sudden, one day at sea, I was determined by some means or other to learn how to work a day's work, and keep a reckoning. I got a 'Daily Assistant,' a 'Mariner's Compass,' a 'Robertson's Elements,' &c., and applied myself diligently for about two hours, when my head began to ache, and my ideas became confused. I put away the books, yawned, scratched my temples, went to bed, raved, and the present work is the result of the dreams of that night. Whoever doubts what I assert does me an injury, but as I allow of an universal toleration of belief and sentiment in all trivial matters, I can readily forgive it.'

This new plan of Mr. Rymer's consists in a method of solving the cases of plain sailing, by means of lines drawn on the faces of a quadrant, and in a method of turning departure into difference of longitude, with a view to solution of the cases in Mercator's sailing; so that a person may attain a competent knowledge of navigation, without either nautical tables or any knowledge of trigonometry.

Neither of these plans, however, though remarkable enough specimens of untutored ingenuity, have been of much practical avail. A quadrant graduated in the manner he has described has been found useful to give beginners, in an easy and familiar manner, a clear notion of the nature and cases of plain sailing; but to others, more versant in the art, a traverse table furnishes a much more expeditious and more accurate means of computation.

Bridge of Ropes.

Suspension bridges are frequent in America, where they are sometimes constructed of ropes. A remarkable bridge of this sort, called the Penipe, crosses the Chambo in Peru, and is suspended over a ravine about eight thousand feet above the level of the ocean. This bridge is about a hundred and twenty feet long and seven or eight broad.

All travellers speak of the danger of passing these rope bridges, which look like ribbons suspended above crevices or torrents. A few years ago the Penipe bridge broke down, and four Indians, who were passing at the time, were drowned. A bridge of this description, if well covered with bamboo canes, lasts upwards of twenty years.

Chinese Bridges.

Several of the bridges in China are very ingeniously constructed, and as works of art can scarcely be equalled in Europe. The most remarkable of these structures is that which has obtained the name of the Flying Bridge, from its being built over a river, between two mountains, and consisting only of a single

arch, five hundred cubits high, and four hundred long.

There is another remarkable bridge in the province of Shansi, at the conflux of two large rivers, which is built upon a hundred and thirty barges chained together, but so contrived as to open and admit vessels to pass through, after paying the usual toll. This sort of bridge is very common in China.

The Chinese have another sort of bridges, built upon pillars, without any arches; and some of these are of great length and breadth, particularly one in the province of Fo-kien, which is three hundred and sixty perches long, and one and a half broad. It is all of white stone, supported by three hundred pillars, has a parapet on each side, and is adorned with the figures of lions at certain distances, and a variety of other sculptures.

Some of the arched bridges in China are of considerable size and beauty. That of Fuchew, the capital of Fo-kien, which is above a hundred and fifty perches long, consists of a hundred lofty arches.

The chain suspension bridge, which has been recently introduced into this country, has long been known in China. In the province of Koei-cheou there is a bridge called the Iron Bridge, which consists of chains of iron reaching over the river, extremely deep and rapid, though not very broad. On each bank are raised two massy piles of masonry, to which are fastened chains that cross to the opposite side, and on these are laid broad planks.

Steam War Ships.

In 1814, a most ingenious and enterprising citizen of the United States, to whom the world is indebted for the general adoption, though not for the original application, of the power of steam to the propelling of boats and carriages, conceived that the same power might be employed to move a floating battery, carrying heavy guns, for the protection of the Atlantic frontier of that republic. The plan was submitted by Mr. Fulton to the American executive. Congress, influenced by the most liberal and patriotic spirit, appropriated money for the experiment; and the navy department appointed commissioners to superintend the construction of a convenient vessel under the direction of Mr. Fulton, for making the experiment. On the 20th of October, 1814, the vessel was launched at New York, amidst the plaudits of a vast crowd of citizens; and in a very short time after, her equipment was completed. The machines, in weight and size, surpassed anything of the kind ever seen in America. The vessel presented a structure resting upon two boats, and keels separated from end to end by a canal fifteen feet wide, and one hundred and fifty-six feet long. One boat contained the cauldrons of copper to prepare the steam. The vast cylinder of iron, with its piston, lever, and wheels, occupied a part of its fellow; the great water-wheel, revolved in the space be-

tween them; the main or gun deck, supported her armament, and was protected by a bulwark four feet ten inches thick, of solid timber. This was pierced with thirty port-holes, to enable as many thirty-two pounders to fire red-hot balls; her upper or spar-deck was plain, and she was to be propelled by her enginery alone.

At length, all matters were ready for a trial of the machinery, which was to urge this bulky fabric through the water. This essay was made on the 1st of June, 1815. She proved herself capable of opposing the wind, and stemming the tide, of crossing currents, and of being steered among vessels riding at anchor, though the weather was boisterous, and the water rough. Her performance demonstrated that the project was successful; no doubt remained that a floating battery, composed of heavy artillery, could be moved by steam.

It was discovered, however, that there were several improvements, of which the structure was susceptible, and it was resolved that these should be made, before another trial was attempted.

On the 4th of July, 1815, she was again put into action. She performed a trip from New York to the ocean, eastward of Sandy Hook, and back again, a distance of fifty-three miles, in eight hours and twenty minutes. A part of this time, she had the tide against her, and no assistance whatever from sails.

Additional experiments were, notwithstanding, deemed necessary, for the purpose of obtaining a still greater celerity of motion; and these were devised and executed with all possible care.

On the 11th of September, a third trial of her powers was made with a weight of twenty-six long and ponderous guns, and a considerable quantity of ammunition and stores on board. Her draft of water was short of eleven feet. By inverting the motion of the wheels, she was made to change her course without the necessity of putting about. She fired salutes as she passed the forts, and overcame every resistance from wind and tide, in her progress down the bay. When she reached the United States frigate *Java*, which was then lying at anchor near the light-house, she was moved round her at pleasure; and through the whole of the excursion, showed a perfect obedience to the double helm.

It was observed that the explosions of powder produced very little concussion: the machinery was not affected by it in the slightest degree; her progress during the firing, was steady and uninterrupted. On the most accurate calculations, derived from heaving the log, her average velocity was five miles and a half per hour; and notwithstanding the resistance of currents, she was found to make headway at the rate of two miles an hour, against the ebb of the east river, running three knots and a half.

'It was universally agreed,' say the commissioners appointed to report on the experiment, 'that we now possessed a new auxiliary

against every maritime invader. The city of New York, exposed as it is, was considered as having the means of rendering itself invincible. The Delaware, the Chesapeake, Long Island Sound, and every other bay and harbour in the nation, may be protected by the same tremendous power.'

Spence's Perpetual Motion.

Among those who have attempted the grand problem, which has puzzled philosophers in all ages—the discovery of perpetual motion, few persons have displayed more ingenuity than John Spence, an untutored mechanic of Linlithgow. When only three or four years of age, Spence was excessively fond of mechanical inventions, and never could get the idea of them banished from his mind. When eleven years old, he invented and constructed a model of a loom, the whole working apparatus of which was set in motion by a winch, or handle at one side. It was contrived on the same principle as the looms *subsequently* constructed in Glasgow to be wrought by the steam-engine, but had less machinery. He gave the model to a gentleman of Stirling, and never heard what became of it. When twelve years old, he was put to the trade of a shoemaker; after only eight days' instruction, he was able to make shoes on his own account; not that he was master of the trade, but he was then left to the resources of his own ingenuity, and acquired the art without farther actual superintendence. But the natural bent of his genius leaned towards mechanics, and he never liked the employment. Wheels and levers, occupied his mind from his earliest recollection; and he was happy only when he was inventing, or constructing what he had invented. He soon left his native town, and went to Glasgow, not with the view of following out the trade of a shoemaker, but in the hope of getting into an employment which would place him near some of the magnificent machines used by the manufacturers of that city. Uninstructed as an artist, however, and utterly ignorant of spinning and weaving, it was difficult for him to find a situation about a manufactory which he was fitted to fill. At last he thought himself qualified for the humble situation of the keeper of an engine; and, accordingly, engaged himself in that capacity. For two years his daily occupation was to feed the furnace, and to oil the engine; and he felt happy in the employment, for it afforded him an opportunity of looking upon wheels in motion. Tired, at last, of the sameness of the scene, he returned to Linlithgow, and endeavoured to follow his original trade. But the mechanical powers still haunted his imagination, and he continued to invent and construct, till he sometimes brought upon himself the admonitions of his friends, and the scoffs of his enemies, for devoting so much time to his visionary inventions, as they called them, instead of attending to his trade. The invention of the long-sought-for perpetual motion,

appeared to him a splendid enterprise, attractive by the difficulty which attended it, and it excited his ambition by the very obstacles which it presented. He directed his ingenuity to that object, and at length he produced a piece of mechanism of extraordinary ingenuity.

In the year 1814, he had become so disgusted with the trade of a shoemaker that he could continue it no longer. Often would he throw the shoe from his hand in indignation, when his mind was diving deep into the principles of mechanics, and accuse Fortune for dooming him to such despicable drudgery. As often would he draw down the sage advices of his spouse, who regarded him as the dupe of a heated imagination. He now conceived the idea of becoming a weaver. He had then in view to erect looms to be worked by a water-wheel, and thus promised himself both profit and pleasure from his change of profession. Accordingly, his first object was to learn the trade of a weaver. This was soon accomplished. He constructed with his own hands the whole apparatus of a loom, except the *treddles* and reed; got a professional weaver to put in the first web, and without any other instruction, made as good cloth as those regularly bred to the business. This scheme, however, was never prosecuted farther.

His last effort was to complete his discovery of a perpetual motion. The invention was known in Linlithgow a considerable time before it was known to the public; but it was despised there, in the usual way, for a prophet is not without honour, save in his own country. The voice of fame, however, at length taught the good folks that a genius was among them, and they then crowded to see it with as much eagerness as they had formerly displayed in difference about it. A considerable number of strangers also visited it, and all expressed their admiration of the ingenuity, and at the same time the simplicity of the contrivance.

It is difficult to convey an idea of the invention by description. A wooden beam, poised by the centre, has a piece of steel attached to one end of it, which is alternately drawn up by a piece of magnet placed above it, and down by another placed below it: and as the end of the beam approaches the magnet, either above or below, the machine interjects a non-conducting substance, which suspends the attraction of the magnet approached, and allows the other to exert its powers. Thus the end of the beam continually ascends and descends betwixt the two magnets, without ever coming into contact with either; the attractive power of each being suspended precisely at the moment of nearest approach. As the magnetic attraction is a permanently operating power, there appears to be no limit to the continuance of the motion but the endurance of the materials of the machine. So much may be said of his model, which is rather a practical development of the principle, than an application of it to any purpose.

Spence afterwards simplified the apparatus, and exhibited a horizontal wheel, set full of

needles, attracted constantly round by the magnetic power; and which, he said, would move as long as the axle of the wheel would last, or the magnetic virtue remain.

Spence made several other ingenious machines, including a self-moving car, which was exhibited in Edinburgh, and on which he used frequently to make excursions along the road. This ingenious artist has very little of the enthusiastic visionary in his composition, but possesses a full reliance on his own powers. His education has been that of the operative mechanics of Scotland in general—reading, writing, and arithmetic; but he has an intuitive perception of every principle connected with mechanics, which he never studied in books; because he found, on attempting to do so, that he derived no instruction from reading, on account of not understanding the *terms*. He has studied mechanics, however, extensively in another way, viz., by visiting many and various machines, by observing them in motion, and by thinking on the principles developed in their construction. He cannot, however, he says, well understand a scientific description, or easily communicate his own ideas by description to others. When he has invented any particular piece of mechanism, he constructs a model of it, and thus at once satisfies his own mind on the practicability of the principles, and conveys his ideas to other minds; rather, however, for his own gratification, than for any assistance he expects to obtain from it.

Lamp without Flame.

Among the numerous ingenious discoveries for which science is indebted to Sir Humphry Davy, one is, that a fine platina wire heated red hot, and held in the vapour of ether, will continue ignited for some time. This discovery has since been practically applied by Mr. Gill, in the formation of an alcohol lamp, on the following construction: A cylindrical coil of thin platina wire is placed, part of it round the cotton wick of a spirit-lamp, and part of it above the wick, and the lamp is to be lighted so as to heat the wire to redness; on the flame being blown out, the vapour of the alcohol will keep the wire *red hot* for any length of time, according to the supply of alcohol, and with a very small expenditure thereof, so as to be in constant readiness to kindle German fungus, or paper prepared with nitre, and by this means to light a sulphur match, &c. at pleasure.

The proper size of the platina wire is the one-hundredth part of an inch, which may be readily known by wrapping ten turns of the wire round a cylinder, and if they measure the tenth part of an inch, it will be right. A larger size will only yield a dull red light, and a smaller one is difficult to use.

About twelve turns of the wire will be sufficient, coiled round any cylindrical body, suited to the size of the wick of the lamp; and four or five coils should be placed on the wick, and the remainder of the wire above it.

A wick composed of twelve threads of the ordinary sized lamp-cotton yarn, with the platina wire coiled around it, will require about half an ounce of alcohol to keep light for eight hours.

Gonard's Engraving Machine.

A singular discovery in copper-plate engraving has been made by M. Gonard of France. In 1806, this artist exhibited porcelain on which copper-plate engraving had been transferred by mechanical means; and at the annual exhibition of the productions of French industry at the Louvre, in 1819, he showed some more perfect specimens of his art. 'An engraved copper-plate being given,' says the report of the central jury appointed for deciding on the merit of the new invention, 'he will use it for the decoration of pieces of different dimensions, and by an expeditious mechanical process enlarge or reduce the design in proportion to the piece, without changing the plate.' It is added in a note, 'if an engraved copper-plate be given to him, he can take impressions from it of any scale he pleases. He can at pleasure make them larger or smaller than the plate, and this without requiring another copper-plate, or occupying more than two or three hours. Thus if the engravings of a large atlas size were put into his hands, he would make an edition in octavo without changing the plates.'

Egyptian Labyrinth.

Herodotus, who saw the labyrinth of Egypt, describes it as being a more remarkable curiosity than that of the pyramids. This structure is one of the proofs of the great progress that the arts had made among the Egyptians, at a time when all the rest of the world was enveloped in the grossest ignorance.

The labyrinth of Egypt stood near Arsinal, or the city of the crocodiles, a little above the lake Moeris. It was of a square form, each side a furlong in length, built of most beautiful stone, the sculpture and ornaments of which, modern art could scarcely rival. On passing the outward enclosure, a building presented itself to view, surrounded by an arcade, every side of which contained four hundred pillars. The structure seems to have been designed as a pantheon, or universal temple of all the Egyptian deities which were separately worshipped in the provinces. It was also the place of the general assembly of the magistracy of the whole nation.

The edifice contained twelve halls, which were vaulted, and had six doors opening to the north, and six to the south; all encompassed with the same wall. Herodotus says, there were three thousand chambers in it, fifteen hundred in the upper part, which he saw; and as many underground, which he was not permitted to inspect. But, he says, what he did see, seemed to surpass the art of man; so many exits by various passages, and infinite

returns, afforded a thousand subjects of wonder. The passages met and crossed each other with such intricacy, that it was impossible for a stranger to find his way either in or out, without a guide; and several of the apartments are said to have been so contrived, that on opening the doors, there was heard within a noise like thunder.

Proctor, the Sculptor.

Among the sculptors which Great Britain has produced, the name of Proctor once held a high place, though now obscured by the more transcendent merit of several successors in the art. His model of Ixion was long considered as the finest piece of work ever produced by a native of this country.

Another of his works was a fine group of Diomedes devoured by his horses, which he destroyed in a fit of despair, because he could not get a purchaser at fifty pounds, after it had cost him a twelvemonth's labour. Proctor was mild, affable, and modest. After spending a small patrimony in the cultivation of his professional abilities, he was reduced to such distress, that not being able to pay a small bill, it made so deep an impression on his mind, that after wandering from the house of one friend to another, he returned to lodgings, where he sighed, languished, and drooped into eternity.

Colossus of Rhodes.

The Colossus of Rhodes, which has been justly classed among the wonders of ancient architecture, appears to have served the double purpose of a lighthouse and a telegraph. It was an immense structure of brass or statuary metal, which was erected in honour of Apollo, or the sun, the tutelary deity of the island. The legs of this colossal figure were fifty feet asunder, each foot being placed on a rock at this distance from each other, which bounded the entrance into the haven; its height, according to Pliny, was not less than a hundred and five feet, and hence ships of considerable burden were capable of sailing under it.

The Colossus is said to have been erected by the Rhodians, with the money produced by the sale of the engines of war which Demetrius Poliorcetes employed in fruitlessly besieging the city for twelve months. Pliny affirms that it was commenced by Chares, of Lindus, a disciple of Lysippus, and finished upon his death, by Laches, of the same town. It was thrown down by an earthquake, sixty years after its completion.

As a proof of the immense size of this brazen statue, it is only necessary to observe, that the fingers of it are said to have been as large as the body of a full-grown man, and the thumb so thick, that few men, with outstretched arms, were able to fathom it.

The historians who describe the Colossus at Rhodes, give us no clue by which we may ascertain how a statue of such size or weight was

formed; or when formed, how it was raised. There is, however, little doubt that it was cast in sections, and afterwards joined and fluxed together by some process which has been lost.

The Colossus served as a lighthouse to the mariners who were sailing to or from the island in the night time. The light proceeded from an immense fire which was contained in a brass vase, held in the right hand of the Colossus.

Extraordinary Knife.

In the year 1816, a knife was made at Messrs. Travis, Son and Co.'s shop, at Manchester, containing seventeen articles, viz., three blades, button hook, saw, punch, and screw-driver, box, corkscrew, hook, and gimlet, two phlemes, picker, tweezers, and two lancets, with a ring at the head; the knife was only 11-16ths of an inch long, and weighed one pennyweight, fourteen grains!

Hindoo Loom.

Nothing can be more rude, or, in appearance, less calculated for delicate manufacture, than the loom of the Hindoo weaver, which he sets up in the morning, under a tree, before his door, and takes down again at sunset. It consists merely of two rollers, resting on four stakes driven into the ground, and two sticks which cross the warp. These are supported at each end, the one by cords tied to the tree, under the shade of which the loom is erected; and the other, by two cords fastened to the foot of the weaver; these enable him to separate the threads of the warp, for the purpose of crossing it with the woof. For the greater convenience, he digs a hole in the ground to put his legs in. He uses a piece of wood, or stick, or almost anything that comes to hand, for a shuttle; and yet with such rude instruments as these, the Hindoo weaver produces stuffs so fine, that when spread on the grass, they intercept none of its colour.

Art of Glass Incrustation.

The first attempt at glass incrustation in modern times (for the art appears to have been known to the ancients), was made by a Bohemian, towards the close of the last century; he endeavoured to incrust in glass, small figures of a greyish clay; and a though he was not very successful, the idea was caught by some French manufacturers, who executed several incrustated medallions of Bonaparte, which were sold at an enormous price. The art had, however, made little progress until it was taken up in England, which has always been as celebrated for perfecting the crude inventions of other countries, as for originality of genius.

To Mr. Pellatt the public are indebted for this elegant improvement in the glass manufacture. This gentleman has discovered a

method of ornamental incrustation, which he calls *crystallo-ceramic*, and which bids fair to form an era in the art of glass making.

By the improved process, ornaments of any description, arms, cyphers, portraits, and landscapes, of any variety of colour, may be introduced into glass, so as to become perfectly imperishable. The substance of which they are composed is less fusible than glass, incapable of generating air, and at the same time susceptible of contraction or expansion, as, in the course of manufacture, the glass becomes hot or cold. It may previously be formed into any device or figure, by either moulding or modelling; and may be painted with metallic colours, which are fixed by exposure to a melting heat. The ornaments are introduced into the body of the glass while hot, by which means the air is effectually excluded, the composition being actually incorporated with the glass. In this way, every description of ornamental glass ware may be decorated with embossed white or coloured arms or crests. Specimens of these incrustations have been exhibited not only in decanters and wine glasses, but in lamps, girandoles, chimney ornaments, plates, and smelling bottles. Busts and statues on a small scale, caryatides to support lamps or clocks, and masks after the antique, have been introduced with admirable effect.

The composition used in the patent incrustations is of a silvery appearance, which has a superb effect when introduced into richly-cut glass. Miniatures, however, may be enamelled upon it without the colours losing any of their brilliancy; and thus, instead of being painted on the surface of the crystal, may be embodied in it. A most important advantage to be derived from this elegant invention respects the preservation of inscriptions. Casts of medals and coins do not present equal security for perpetuating them. The inscription, when once incrustated in a solid block of crystal, like the fly in amber, will effectually resist for ages the destructive action of the atmosphere. Had this art been known to the ancients, it would have perpetuated to us many interesting memorials.

With Fools, Talk like One.

A wealthy farmer, much affected with hypochondria, came to Langenau, to consult Michael Scuppach, better known by the appellation of the *Mountain Doctor*. 'I have seven devils in my belly,' said he, 'no fewer than seven.' 'There are more than seven,' replied the doctor, with the utmost gravity; 'if you count them right, you will find eight.' After questioning the patient concerning his case, he promised to cure him in eight days, during which time he would every morning rid him of one of his troublesome inmates, at the rate of a louis d'or for each. 'But,' added he, 'as the last will be more obstinate and difficult to expel than the others, I shall expect two louis d'ors for him.' The farmer agreed

to these terms: the bargain was struck, and the doctor impressing upon all present the necessity of secrecy, promised to give the nine louis d'ors to the poor of the parish. The next morning the imaginary demoniac was brought to him, and placed near a kind of machine which he had never seen before, by which means he received an electric shock. The farmer roared out lustily. 'There goes one!' said the doctor, with the utmost gravity. Next day the same operation was repeated: the farmer bellowed as before, and the doctor coolly remarked, 'Another is off!' In this manner he proceeded to the seventh. When he was preparing to attack the last, Scuppach reminded his patient that he now had need of all his courage, for this was the captain of the gang, who would make a more obstinate resistance than any of the others. The shock was at this time so strong as to extend the demoniac on the floor. 'Now they are all gone!' said the doctor, and ordered the farmer to be put to bed. On recovering himself, the latter declared he was completely cured; he paid the nine louis d'ors, with abundance of thanks, and returned in the best spirits to the village. Credible witnesses attest this extraordinary cure, which proves the acuteness of the doctor, as well as the truth of Solomon's proverb, that with the fool we must sometimes talk like a fool.

Shirts without Seams.

In the year 1819, Thomas Hall, an ingenious linen weaver in Ireland, finished a shirt entirely in his loom, which, though woven without seams, was neatly and accurately finished at the neck, shoulders, and wrists. The neck, shoulder-straps, and wristbands, were doubled and stitched, and there was a regular selvage on each side of the breast. The whole was as complete as if made by an expert sempstress: it was exhibited to several persons in the linen trade, who completely satisfied themselves that it was actually the production of the loom, without any assistance from the needle. A similar achievement of the loom is preserved at Dunfermline, in Scotland, which was the work many years ago of an ingenious diaper weaver of that place.

Indian Manufactures.

The sister arts of spinning and weaving are carried to great perfection in India. Orme, speaking of the silk manufactures of Bengal, says: 'The women wind off the raw silk from the pod of the worm; a single pod of raw silk is divided into twenty different degrees of fineness; and so exquisite is the feeling of these women, that while the thread is running through their fingers, so swiftly that their eye can be of no assistance, they will break it off exactly as the quality changes, at once from the first to the twentieth, from the nineteenth to the second.'

Fine and delicate as the muslins of Bengal

are known to be, yet it would appear that they were formerly still finer. Tavernier relates, as an extraordinary instance, that when the ambassador of the King of Persia returned from India, he presented his master with a cocoa-nut, richly set with jewels, containing a muslin turban, thirty English yards in length, so extremely fine, that it could hardly be felt by the touch.

M. de Bussy, on his return from the same country, carried with him, as a present to Madame de Pompadour, the then all-powerful mistress of Louis XV., a dozen chemises, made of the stuff called guineas, each of which was contained in a snuff-box of ordinary dimensions.

Coloured Glass Pictures.

The ancients had a most singular art of forming pictures with coloured glass. It consisted in laying together fibres of glass of various colours, fitted to each other with the utmost exactness, so that a section across the fibres represented the objects to be painted; and then cementing them by fusion into a homogeneous solid mass. In the specimens of this art which were discovered about the middle of the last century, the painting has on both sides a granular appearance, and seems to have been formed in the manner of Mosaic work; but the pieces are so accurately united, that not even by means of a powerful magnifying-glass, could the junctures be discovered. One plate described by Winkelman, exhibits a duck of various colours, the outlines of which are well decided and sharp, the colours pure and vivid; and a brilliant effect has been obtained by the artist's having employed in some parts an opaque, in others, a transparent glass. The picture appears to be continued throughout the whole thickness of the specimen, as the reverse corresponds in the minutest points to the face; so that were the glass to be cut transversely, the same picture of the duck would be found exhibited on every section. It is conjectured, that this curious process was the first attempt of the ancients to preserve the colours, by fusing them into the internal part of the glass; which was, however, but partially done, as the surfaces have not been preserved from the action of the atmosphere.

Flying Machine.

In the year 1809, Mr. Degan, a watch-maker, of Vienna, realised the views of the numerous projectors who preceded him, regarding the flight of men in the air. His machine was constructed on philosophical principles, and to operate in a manner analogous to the wings of birds; while the effect partly resembles the closing of a parachute, stationary on its descent. A frame is made, principally consisting of rods of some strong but light materials, on which the adventurer stands in an erect posture. A flat-shaped

wing, nine feet long, eight feet broad at the swell, and terminating in a point, proceeds from that part of the frame close to each shoulder; and a fan-shaped tail, apparently connected with both wings, proceeds from behind as far as their swell. Each wing is concave, like a parachute, and, by a series of cords from the extremity of the different ribs composing it, can be suddenly contracted, so as to give percussion against the air, and, consequently, by its resistance, produce elevation. It is not sufficiently explained how the working of the machine is effected: but it is to be inferred, that this is done by elevating, depressing, or revolving a crank, connected at each extremity with the series of cords which display or contract the wings. Mr. Degan is said to have mounted high in the air by the aid of his machine, but to have exhibited a flight resembling that of a bird, not consisting merely in ascent or descent, but in *real aerial navigation*.

Hindoo Imitation.

M. Chevalier, the French governor of Chandernagore, once received a piece of plate from Paris, which was a master-piece of art. On showing it to one of his friends in India, the latter offered to lay him a wager, that the Hindoo goldsmiths would produce so exact an imitation, that the original should not be known from the copy. The challenge was accepted; and the vase was sent to a goldsmith at Pondicherry, who required three months to make another like it. At the expiration of that time, the workman sent back the original and the copy; between which, in the opinion of competent judges, there was no difference whatever. The governor himself was obliged to acknowledge that he had lost his wager, for he mistook the vase the Hindoo had made, for his own.

Brunell's Block Machinery.

There is nothing in the appearance of a block, which, to an unpractised eye, would seem to require any stretch of mental ingenuity, or even of mental dexterity, to manufacture, since of the two constituent parts of a ship's block, the external shell, and the internal sheave, every carpenter might make the one, and every turner the other; and yet when blocks were made by the hand, it seldom happened that the several parts were adjusted with sufficient accuracy. Various machines were invented for the making of blocks; when the enormous quantity consumed in the course of a long war, called the attention of the Admiralty, or Navy Board, to the possibility of some reduction being made in the expense of so indispensable and important an article in the naval service. About this time, Mr. Brunell, an ingenious machinist from America, completed a working model of certain machines for constructing, by an improved method, the shells and sheaves

of blocks, which was readily adopted by government. In 1804, Mr. Brunell's plan was in operation; but from that time, to 1808, he never ceased to exert his skill and ingenuity to improve it, until at length he considered the whole system to be complete in every part, and incapable, as far as he could judge, of further improvement. From that time to the present, the block machinery has been in full and constant employment at Portsmouth dock-yard, without requiring the least alteration, and very little repair, beyond the unavoidable wear and tear of engines that are kept in almost constant motion.

It would require too much space to enter into a description of this machine, nor could it be easily understood without engravings in detail of the various complicated systems of machinery that are required for the completion of a block; but it may be matter of some curiosity to know the results of Mr. Brunell's machinery. It is put in motion by a steam-engine of thirty-two horse power; which, however, is applied to a great variety of other purposes, wholly independent of block-making. It has been found by calculation, that four men, with the machinery as it now stands, can complete the shells of as many blocks as fifty could do by the old method; and that six men will furnish as many sheaves as before required sixty; and that these ten men, in displacing the labour of one hundred and ten men, can with ease finish in one year from 130,000 to 140,000 blocks of different sorts and sizes, the total value of which is no less than £15,000: this number is found fully sufficient for supplying the wear and tear of blocks, not only in the naval, but also in the ordnance, departments, even in time of war.

The saving in the expense to the country averaged about £15,000 a year; in consideration of which, Mr. Brunell, who was engaged in completing this machinery from 1802 to 1808, was allowed a compensation of £20,000.

Delicate Spinning.

Some years ago a pair of worsted stockings were made of such delicate texture, that they could be drawn through a lady's ring of ordinary size; and a machine has since been invented, which spins woollen yarn much superior in fineness. By this machine, a pound of yarn may be rendered worth ten guineas, producing ninety-five hands, of five hundred and sixty yards each in length, 53,200 yards, or thirty miles and four hundred yards.

Babbage's Calculating Machine.

A most singular machine has been invented by Mr. Charles Babbage, for calculating and printing mathematical tables; and thus avoiding the intolerable labour and fatiguing monotony of a continued repetition of similar arithmetical calculations. For this purpose Mr. Babbage has constructed several engines.

One is capable of computing any table by aid of differences, whether they are positive or negative, or of both kinds. One remarkable property of this machine is, that the greater the number of differences, the more the engine will outstrip the most rapid calculator.

By the application of other parts of no great degree of complexity, this may be converted into a machine for extracting the roots of equations, and consequently the roots of numbers.

Mr. Babbage has constructed another machine, which he says 'will calculate tables governed by laws which have not been hitherto shown to be explicitly determinable, and it will solve equations for which analytical methods of solution have not yet been continued. Supposing,' continues Mr. Babbage, 'these engines executed, there would yet be wanting other means to ensure the accuracy of the printed tables to be produced by them. The errors of the persons employed to copy the figures presented by the engines, would first interfere with their correctness. To remedy this evil, I have contrived measures by which the machines themselves shall take from several boxes containing type, the numbers which they calculate, and place them side by side: thus becoming at the same time a substitute for the compositor and the computer; by which means, all error in copying, as well as printing, is removed.

There is, however, two sources of error which have not yet been guarded against. The tin boxes with which the engine is provided, contain each about three thousand types; each box having, of course, only those of one number in it. It may happen that the person employed in filling these boxes, shall accidentally place a wrong type in some of them. When these boxes are delivered to the superintendent of the engine, I have provided a simple and effectual means by which he shall, in less than half an hour, ascertain whether among these thirty thousand types, there be any figure misplaced, or even inverted. Another cause of error arises from the type falling out when the page has been set up: this I have rendered impossible by means of a similar kind.'

Siderography.

Mr. Perkins has discovered a method of rendering steel so extremely soft and ductile, as to furnish a better material for the engraver to work upon, than even copper itself. If upon a plate of steel thus softened, an engraving has been executed ever so delicate, and the plate is then given to Mr. Perkins, he will, by a process peculiar to himself, render it as hard as the hardest steel, without in the smallest degree injuring the most delicate lines of the graver.

A cylinder of soft steel is then prepared, of proper dimensions to receive an impression in relief from the hardened engraved plate upon its periphery, a process effected by rolling it over the hardened plate in a singularly con-

structed press invented for the purpose. This cylinder, now bearing a perfect impression in relief of the original engraving, is next submitted to the hardening operation, and is then ready for use, that is, being properly placed in the press, it is rolled over a plate of copper, upon which it indents any required number of copies of the first engraving: every copy thus produced, being a *fac simile* of the original: so that in this way any number of copper-plates may be engraved in a very short time, from an original of the most exquisite workmanship; each of which will be equal to an original copper-plate engraving from the same hand, and of the same merit.

The impression from the cylinder may be made upon soft steel, instead of copper; and this afterwards hardened, becomes capable of affording an infinitely greater number of good impressions than the copper-plate: it may also be used as a new source of copies upon the cylinders, thus presenting a means of multiplying the engravings beyond precedent, and almost eluding calculation.

Steam Printing Press.

Among the wonders achieved by the steam engine, that of printing is not the least remarkable. The first idea of applying the steam-engine to this useful art, appears to have been suggested by Mr. Nicholson, who took out a patent for it in the year 1790. It does not appear, however, to have ended in any practical result: for this we are indebted to an ingenious foreigner, Mr. Koenig, a printer of Saxony. The first idea of this gentleman was merely to apply steam in order to give accelerated speed to the common press, and to this for some time his efforts were solely directed.

Failing in his application for encouragement and support on the Continent, Mr. Koenig turned his eyes towards England; and arriving in London in 1801, he submitted his scheme to several printers of repute; but in this instance, as in many others, he found that 'All hear you, none aid you, and few understand.'

At length he got some persons to listen to his proposal, and Mr. Koenig's improvement of the common printing press was tried. Its advantage, however, proved less than was anticipated: cylindrical printing was then thought of, and after two or three years of renewed exertion, a small machine was brought forth, the characteristic of which was, that instead of the printing being produced by a flat impression, as by the common press, the sheet passed between a large roller and the types still flat; and in lieu of the old-fashioned balls for inking the type, rollers were fixed, which inked the form as it passed in its way to the printing cylinder.

Considerable promise of success attended this experiment; and it was soon deemed practicable to extend the general principle to a more powerful machine. To print a news-

paper, was considered highly desirable; and soon attempted with success. So secret, however, were the operations of the patentees, that the first public intimation of their invention was given in the *Times* newspaper on the 28th of November, 1814: wherein the reader was told, that the paper was one of many thousands that had that morning been printed by steam.

The next improvement in the steam-press, was a machine constructed for Mr. Bensley, which *perfected* the sheet—that is, printed it on both sides at once; so that the sheet of paper is placed in the feeder quite blank, and delivered from the machine printed on both sides, causing the pages, or lines of type, on both sides of the paper, to correspond with each other.

Considerable improvements have since been made, not only as to inking the types, but in the general construction of the engine, which has been greatly simplified, and reduced in the space that it occupied. In its present state, the steam printing-press appears susceptible of little improvement. It produces excellent work, and its movements are attended with regularity and dispatch: the double, or perfecting, machine, will throw off a thousand sheets, printed on both sides, within the hour; and the single machine will print one thousand six hundred, or one thousand eight hundred, on one side: all the manual labour is performed by three boys, one to lay the sheet of paper on the cylinder, another to take it off, and a third to lay the sheets even on the *bank*.

Mr. Watt.—The Steam Engine.

Though the ingenuity of man has been constantly employed in mitigating what Shakespeare calls 'the penalty of Adam,' yet never was there so much of that penalty remitted, as by the application of steam to the hewing of wood, and drawing of water, as well as to performing a variety of labours above human strength. That the steam engine was not the invention of Mr. Watt, is certain; but it is equally certain, that it was to the improvements of this gentleman, on its original construction, that we are indebted for its extended power and utility.

The first steam-engine was constructed by Captain Savary, who obtained a patent in 1698, and employed it in draining the tin mines in Cornwall; which, however, it was only able to do to a limited extent. In 1705, Newcomen made considerable improvements on Savary's engine; after which, nothing further was done, until application was made to Mr. James Watt, then an instrument maker in Glasgow, to repair the *model* of Newcomen's steam-engine, in the University of Glasgow, which, in the course of time, had become unfit for exhibiting the powerful effects of steam to the students. The mind of Mr. Watt was instantly struck with the mechanism of the engine, and he perceived

defects which he thought he could remedy. From this hour, his whole attention was fixed upon the improvement of the steam-engine : every other object was subordinate ; every other pursuit was followed merely for the sake of subsistence ; the steam-engine was his darling object ; it was this which was to lay the foundation of his fame and fortune, and to prove one of the most valuable gifts that an individual could give to his country. To follow the progress of Mr. Watt's inventions, would be to write the history of the steam-engine ; it is, however, only necessary to glance at what it was when he took it in hand, and what he left it, to prove that though he is called the improver of the steam-engine only, yet that, in truth, as to all that is admirable in its structure, or vast in its utility, he should rather be described as the inventor.

Newcomen's engine was only employed as reciprocating power for drawing water, and that to a limited extent. By the invention of Mr. Watt, it was so regulated, as to make it capable of being applied to the finest and most delicate manufactures, and its power so increased, as to set weight and solidity at defiance. By his admirable contrivances, it became a thing stupendous alike for its force, and its exibility : for the prodigious powers which it can exert, and the ease, precision, and ductility, with which they can be varied, distributed, and applied. The trunk of an elephant at can pick up a pin, or rend an oak, is nothing to it. It can engrave a seal, and crush masses of obdurate metals like wax before it ; saw out, without breaking, a thread as fine as gossamer, and lift a ship of war like a bubble in the air. It can embroider muslin, and forge anchors ; cut steel into ribands, and pel loaded vessels against the fury of the winds and waves.

It would be difficult to estimate the value of the benefits which the inventions of Mr. Watt have conferred upon the country. There is no branch of industry that has not been indebted to them ; and in all the most material, they have not only widened most magnificently the field of its exertions, but multiplied thousandfold the amount of its productions. An ingenious foreigner, M. Dupin, speaking of the immense mechanical force set in action by the steam-engines of Britain, gives the following illustration of its amount. The great pyramid of Egypt required for its erection the labour of above 100,000 men, for twenty years ; if it were required again to raise the stones from the quarries, and place them at their present height, the action of the steam-engines of Britain, which are managed at most by 50 men, would be sufficient to produce the work in eighteen hours. And M. Dupin says, if it were required to know how long a party they would take to cut the stones, and carry them from the quarries to the pyramid, every few days would be found suffi-

cient. These are only illustrations of the power of the steam-engine ; its benefits, however, are more striking. It has increased indefinitely the mass of human comforts and enjoyments,

and rendered cheap and accessible all over the world, the materials of wealth and prosperity. It has armed the feeble hand of man, in short, with a power to which no limits can be assigned ; completed the dominion of mind over the most refractory qualities of matter ; and laid a sure foundation for all those future miracles of mechanic power, which are to aid and reward the labours of after generations. It is to the genius of one man, too, that all this is mainly owing ; and certainly no man ever before bestowed such a gift on his kind. The blessing is not only universal, but unbounded ; and the fabled inventors of the plough and the loom, who were deified by the erring gratitude of their rude contemporaries, conferred less important benefits on mankind, than the inventor of our present steam-engine. This will be the fame of WATT, with future generations, and it is sufficient for his race and his country.

John Rennie.

The late celebrated John Rennie rose entirely by his own merit. In a country where instruction is general, he was not without the benefits of an ordinary education ; but it was by powers that must have shone in any country, and in any condition of life, that he scaled the heights of science and of art.

No man, however, could show a juster sense of his early advantages, than Mr. Rennie. When the inhabitants of Perth proposed to remunerate him for some trouble which he had taken in directing and superintending certain improvements in the navigation of the river Tay, he nobly declined all recompense, remarking, 'that he had long since been amply paid for whatever services he could render to the citizens of Perth, for it was in the academy of that city, that he commenced those studies which had gained him a name in the world.'

Mr. Rennie commenced his professional career as a machinist : and executed for Messrs. Boulton and Watt, some of the first steam-mills in this country, particularly those known by the name of the Albion Mills. He afterwards devoted himself to the study of hydraulic construction ; and by a diligent attention to the admirable lessons in this branch of art, furnished by Mr. Smellie, was at length enabled in some respects to equal, and in many others to surpass, him.

The ports of London, Liverpool, Hull, Greenock, Leith, Holyhead, Portpatrick, Howth, and Dunlary, all bear testimony to the talents and resources of Mr. Rennie, as an architect and hydraulician. For the metropolis he furnished the plans, and directed the construction of the East India and London Docks, alike remarkable for their general grandeur, the judgment shown in their various details, and their beautiful style of execution. The West India Docks also, which were at first under the direction of Mr. Jessop, were, after the death of that able engineer, completed by Mr. Rennie.

In all these undertakings, as M. Dupin, one of the first of French engineers, bears witness, the operations of every sort were so arranged as to produce in a given time, with the lowest number of men, the greatest possible results; and everywhere machines were employed to execute, what machines alone could execute well, with economy, precision, and rapidity.

The same admirable spirit of invention, method, and calculation continued to be displayed by Mr. Rennie in every undertaking in which he was engaged—in the construction of canals, among which that of Crinan deserves peculiar attention, on account of the many natural difficulties opposed to it; in the draining and embankment of the fens in the counties of Lincoln, Bedford, and Cambridge; in the improvements of the arsenals and dockyards at Woolwich, Chatham, Portsmouth, and Plymouth; the erection of the new docks at Sheerness; the construction of the breakwater at Plymouth; the Bell Rock Lighthouse; the Southwark and Waterloo Bridges over the Thames.

‘In the hydraulic constructions at Sheerness,’ says M. Dupin, ‘we see art struggling with the difficulties of nature, and overcoming them. The whole arsenal is built upon an artificial soil; the foundations of the buildings rest on the hulls of old vessels buried under the alluvial deposit, of which the Isle of Sheppey is formed.’ And yet ‘such is the skill with which the works are constructed, and so excellent the materials which have been employed, that they must be proof alike against the outrages of time and the hand of violence—a work worthy of the Romans, in the proudest period of their existence!’

It is this unalterable solidity, the result of prudent dimensions and judicious combinations, which M. Dupin justly considers as the great characteristic of Mr. Rennie’s labours. But perhaps this feature is more remarkably displayed in the two bridges of Southwark and Waterloo than in any other monuments of his genius.

The Southwark Bridge is the first in which the bold idea has been conceived of employing cast iron in large masses, so extensive as far to surpass that of stone voussoirs of the largest dimensions. The arches of this bridge are formed of metallic voussoirs, and such as could only be cast in a country where metallurgy is carried to the highest degree of perfection. ‘When we consider,’ says the same elegant French writer whom we have already so often quoted, ‘the extent and elevation of the arches of the bridge, and the magnitude of the elements which compose it, what an idea does it not give us of the power of man! We exclaim involuntarily, while we gaze on the chef-d’œuvre—Behold the bridge of giants!’

Yet even this bridge is inferior to that of Waterloo, the noblest bridge, not only in the three kingdoms, but, perhaps, in the world. The celebrated Canova, when he visited this country, declared that it was the grandest fabric of the kind he had ever seen,

and that it was worth a journey from the remotest corner of the earth to behold it. But here again we must quote M. Dupin:—

‘The English have hitherto pointed with pride to the bridges of Blackfriars and Westminster. But since this new bridge has been thrown over the space between these fine monuments of public utility, these seem as if they had lost their regularity, their extent, and all their majesty.

‘The three bridges, Blackfriars, Westminster, and London, being constructed of a soft stone, strongly liable to decomposition, have suffered prodigiously from the ravages of time; and the same is the case with the greater part of those edifices which grace the British metropolises.

‘If by the incalculable effect of those revolutions to which empires are exposed, people should one day ask, where stood the New Sidon? and what is become of the Tyre of the west, which covered the whole ocean with its ships? The greater part of its buildings, destroyed by a destructive climate, will no longer reply to the curiosity of men with the voice of monuments; but the bridge built by Rennie, in the centre of the commercial world, will subsist to tell to generations the most remote, ‘Here was a city, rich, industrious, and powerful.’ The traveller, at the sight of this superb monument, will be apt to suppose that some great prince had endeavoured, by long years of toil, to consecrate his name to everlasting renown by this magnificent structure. But should tradition inform him that six years sufficed to undertake and complete this work; that a simple association of merchants possessed opulence enough to build, at their expense, this colossal monument, worthy of the Sesostrises and the Cæsars; he will admire still more the nation where such works could be produced by the efforts of individuals without name, and last for ever to fame, amidst a crowd of industrious citizens.’

How much merit there is in the completion of so stupendous a design, in so admirable a manner, no one who is in the least acquainted with works of art, need be told. Mr. Rennie, while executing it, seemed to feel that he was building for immortality; no branch of the work, however minute, or apparently immaterial, escaped his most vigilant attention; he would only use those materials which were the most excellent of their kind; and not an inch of work would he suffer to pass, which was not executed in the very best possible manner. The present writer remembers to have seen him superintending the preparation of the mortar, as if that had been the only thing he had to attend to in the whole undertaking; and repeatedly turning back loads of the material, because they were not so well wrought as they might be. It was by care like this, that the name of Rennie, and the genius of stability, have in a manner become identified.

Superior to every sentiment of envy or jealousy, Mr. Rennie was neither slow in his admiration of other men’s powers, nor averse to profit honourably by them. He gave due praise to foreign nations, and to the French in

particular, for the monuments which they have achieved; and to all strangers who came hither to gather instruction from the many models of art with which Britain has supplied the world, he was ever free of access, and most liberal in his communications. He experienced in return, many flattering marks of gratitude and esteem, from men of genius of other countries. In 1819, having communicated to some of his scientific friends in France, his wish of inspecting the arsenals at

Brest and Cherbourg, the French minister of marine was no sooner apprised of his wishes, than he sent instructions to the superior officers of both these ports, to afford him, for that purpose, every aid and facility in their power. M. Dupin has with equal liberality and good sense remarked, 'that whatever information Mr. Rennie may have derived from such inspection, France may be well assured, that in this interchange of knowledge and politeness, she is not the least gainer.'



ANECDOTES OF HUMOUR.

'Tis nought but mirth
That keeps the body from the earth.'
BEAUMONT AND FLETCHER.

The Man who Never Laughed but Once.

THE ass, though the dullest of all unlaughing animals, is reported to have once accomplished a great feat in the way of exciting laughter. Marcus Crassus, the grandfather of the hero of that name, who fell in the Parthian war, was a person of such immovable gravity of countenance, that in the whole course of his life, he was never known to laugh but once, and hence was surnamed Agelastus. Not all that the wittiest men of his time could say, nor aught that comedy or farce could produce on the stage, was ever known to call up more than a smile on his iron-bound countenance. Happening one day, however, to stray into the fields, he espied an ass browsing on thistles; and in this there appears to have been something so eminently ridiculous in those days, that the man who never laughed before, could not help laughing at it outright. It was but the burst of a moment; Agelastus immediately recovered himself, and never laughed again.

Athenian Newsmonger.

On the defeat of the Athenians in Sicily, a slave who had fled from the field of battle, was the first who reached Athens with the tidings. He entered by the suburb called Pyræum, and ran into the first barber's shop he came to (for even in those days, barbers' shops were the grand marts for news), to communicate the disastrous intelligence. Such a bit of news had not come in the barber's way for a long time; it was too good not to be made the most of; he instantly dropped his razor, left a customer half shaved, and rushing out, ran as fast as he could into the city—

'For fear some other might the honour win,
And he, too late, but second should come in.'

The intelligence caused naturally a great stir in the city; the people assembled in the

market place, and inquiry was made after the author of the rumour. The barber, not a little elated with his importance, stepped forwards, and said that he was the man. He was asked, 'How he came by the news?' He said, 'A man who came into his shop had told him.' 'Who was this man?' 'He could not tell; he had never seen him before, and in his hurry had forgotten to ask even his name.' 'Oh!' cried one and all, 'it is nothing but a wicked story of his own devising; away with the impostor to the rack.' The wheel was brought, and poor Strap actually stretched upon it. Meanwhile certain news of the defeat arrived, and the assembly broke up abruptly, without remembering to release the unlucky barber, who was left stretched on the rack till a late hour in the evening. After so excruciating a lesson, one would have thought that Strap's first vow would have been, never to talk news again while he lived; but, alas! it was a master passion in the barber, which nothing could cure. No sooner was he set at liberty, than his first inquiries of the executioner were, 'What news of the battle? Who slew General Nicias?'

Folly of Sporting.

Burton, in his 'Anatomic of Melancholy,' quoting from Poggius, the Florentine, tells us of a physician in Milan, who kept a house for the reception of lunatics, and by way of cure, used to make his patients stand for a length of time in a pit of water, some up to the knees, some to the girdle, and others as high as the chin, *pro modo insanitiæ*, according as they were more or less affected. An inmate of this establishment, who happened, 'by chance,' to be pretty well recovered, was standing at the door of the house, and seeing a gallant cavalier ride past with a hawk on his fist, and his spaniels after him, he must needs ask, 'What all these preparations meant?' The cavalier answered, 'To kill game.' 'What may the game be worth which you kill in the course of a year?' rejoined the patient. 'About five or ten crowns.' 'And what may your horse, dogs, and hawks, stand

you in?' 'Four hundred crowns more.' On hearing this, the patient with great earnestness of manner, bade the cavalier instantly begone, as he valued his life and welfare; 'for,' said he, 'if our master come and find you here, he will put you into his pit up to the very chin.'

Dying of Laughter.

The last work which came from the pencil of the celebrated Zeuxis, was a picture of an old woman. All the infirmities and defects which make age deplorable; the lean, shrivelled form; the bleared eyes; the hanging cheeks; the toothless gums; the far protruding chin; were represented in a style of such ludicrous combination, that when Zeuxis, as is usual with artists, drew back to contemplate the offspring of his fancy, he was excited to such an immoderate fit of laughter, that he is said to have died on the spot.

The comic poet, Philemon, when at an advanced age, happened to see an ass eat up some figs which a boy had left on the ground. When the boy returned, and stood wondering what had become of his figs, 'The ass has eat them,' said the wit, 'go now and fetch it some water to drink.' The old man was so tickled with the fancy of his own jest, that if we may believe history, he also died of laughing. The cream of this jest we should think consisted in its being *his own*.

A story nearly similar is reported of Chryppus.

Painting to the Life.

When the 'Rambler' first came out in separate numbers, it happened particularly to attract the notice of a society, who met every Saturday evening during the summer at Rumford in Essex, and were known by the name of the Bowling-green Club. These orthies, seeing one day the character of *eviculus* the fortune-hunter, another day one account of a person who spent his life in hoping for a legacy, or of another who was always prying into other folks' affairs, began to be enough to think they were betrayed, and at some of the *coterie* sat down to divert himself by giving to the public the portraits of all the rest. Filled with wrath against the traitor of Rumford, one of them resolved to write to the printer, and inquire the author's name. Samuel Johnson, was the reply. No more was necessary; Samuel Johnson was the name of the curate, and soon each began to load him with reproaches, turning his friends into ridicule in a manner so cruel and unprovoked. In vain did the guiltless curate protest his innocence; he was sure that Ailger meant Mr. Twigg. That Cupidus was but another name for Glibour Baggs. The poor parson, unable to contend against their ire any longer, rode

to London, and brought them full satisfaction concerning the writer, who from his own knowledge of general manners, had happily delineated, though unknown to himself, the members of the Bowling-green Club; and might have said, as Foote did on a similar occasion, and with more truth—

'I am the father of each child, 'tis true,
But every babe its christ'ning owes to you.'

English and Spanish Plenipotentiaries.

During the war between England and Spain, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, commissioners were appointed on both sides to treat of peace. The Spanish commissioners proposed that the negotiation should be carried on in the French tongue, observing sarcastically, that the 'gentlemen of England could not be ignorant of the language of their fellow-subjects, their queen being Queen of France, as well as England.' 'Nay, in faith, gentlemen,' replied Dr. Dale, one of the English commissioners, 'the French is too vulgar for a business of this importance; we will, therefore, if you please, rather treat in Hebrew, the language of Jerusalem, of which your master is king, and in which you must of course be as well skilled as we are in the French.'

A Pope Innocent.

When King James I. visited Sir Thomas Pope, knt., in Oxfordshire, his lady had lately brought him a daughter, and the babe was presented to the king with a paper of verses in her hand; 'which,' quoth Fuller, 'as they pleased the king, I hope they will please the reader.'

See this little mistress here
Did never sit in Peter's chair,
Or a triple crown did wear,
And yet she is a Pope.

No benefice she ever sold,
Nor did dispense with sins for gold,
She hardly is a se'nnight old,
And yet she is a Pope.

No king her feet did ever kiss,
Or had from her worse look than this;
Nor did she ever hope
To saint one with a rope,
And yet she is a Pope.

A female Pope, you'll say, a second Joan!
No, sure, she is Pope *Innocent*, or none!

Theatrical Queen.

Previous to the restoration of Charles II. no woman was admitted on the stage, but the female characters were performed by young men in female costume. The following anecdote, related by Colley Cibber, will give a tolerable idea of the ridiculous distress which

occasionally arose from the absence of the now most attractive ornaments of the theatre. The king coming to the house rather before his usual time, found the *dramatis personee* not ready to appear; when his majesty not choosing to have as much patience as his good subjects, sent one of his attendants to learn the cause of the delay. The manager (then termed master) knowing that the best excuse he could make to the merry monarch would be the truth, went to the royal box, and plainly told his majesty, that 'the *queen* was not yet shaved!' Charles good-humouredly accepted the apology, and laughed heartily, until the male *queen* was effeminated, and the curtain drew up.

Archbishop Mountain.

In the reign of George II. the see of York falling vacant, his majesty being at a loss for a fit person to appoint to the exalted situation, asked the opinion of the Rev. Dr. Mountain, who had raised himself by his remarkably facetious temper from being the son of a beggar, to the see of Durham. The doctor wittily replied, 'Hadst thou faith as a grain of mustard seed, thou wouldst say to this Mountain (at the same time laying his hand on his breast), be removed, and cast into the *sea* (see).' His majesty laughed heartily, and forthwith conferred the preferment on the facetious doctor.

The Great Condé.

The Great Condé passing through the city of Sens, which belonged to Burgundy, and of which he was the governor, took great pleasure in disconcerting the different companies who came to compliment him. The Abbé Boileau, brother of the poet, was commissioned to make a speech to the prince at the head of the chapter. Condé wishing to disconcert the orator, advanced his head and large nose towards the Abbé, as if with the intention of hearing him more distinctly, but in reality to make him blunder if possible. The Abbé, who perceived his design, pretended to be greatly embarrassed, and thus began his speech:—'My lord, your highness ought not to be surprised to see me tremble, when I appear before you at the head of a company of ecclesiastics; were I at the head of an army of thirty thousand men, I should tremble much more.' The prince was so charmed with this sally, that he embraced the orator without suffering him to proceed. He asked his name; and when he found that he was brother to M. Despreaux, he redoubled his attentions, and invited him to dinner.

The prince on another occasion thought himself offended by the Abbé de Voisenon; Voisenon hearing of this, went to court to exculpate himself. As soon as the prince saw him, he turned away from him. 'Thank God!' said Voisenon, 'I have been misinformed, sir; your highness does not treat me

as if I were an enemy.' 'How do you see that, M. Abbé?' said his highness coldly over his shoulder. 'Because, sir,' answered the Abbé, 'your highness never turns your back upon an enemy.' 'My dear Abbé,' exclaimed the prince and field-marshal, turning round and taking him by the hand, 'it is quite impossible for any man to be angry with you.'

The son of the prince having promised a prize of a thousand crowns, to the person who should furnish the finest quatrain, to be engraved on the base of the statue of his illustrious father in the château of Chantilly, a Gascon sent the following:

Pour celebrer tant de vertus,
Tant de haut faits, et tant de gloire
Mille ecus! morbleu! mille ecus,
Ce n'est pas un sou par victoire.

Irish Priest.

An Irish peasant complained to the Catholic priest of his parish, that some person had stolen his best pig, and supplicated his reverence to help him to the discovery of the thief. The priest promised his best endeavours; and his inquiries soon leading him to a pretty correct guess as to the offender, he took the following amusing method of bringing the matter home to him. Next Sunday, after the service of the day, he called out with a loud voice, fixing his eyes on the suspected individual, 'Who stole Pat Doolan's pig?' There was a long pause, and no answer; he did not expect there would be any; and descended from the pulpit without saying a word more. A second Sunday arriving without the pig being restored, his reverence again looking steadfastly at the stubborn purloiner, and throwing a deep note of anger into the tone of his voice, repeated the question, 'Who stole Pat Doolan's pig? I say, who stole *poor* Pat Doolan's pig?' Still there was no answer, and the question was left as before, to work its effect in secret on the conscience of the guilty individual. The hardihood of the offender, however, exceeded all the honest priest's calculations. A third Sunday arrived, and Pat Doolan was still without his pig. Some stronger measure now became necessary. After service was performed, his reverence dropping the question of 'Who stole Pat Doolan's pig?' but still without directly accusing anyone of the theft, reproachfully exclaimed, 'Jimmie Doran! Jimmie Doran! you trate me with contimpt.' Jimmie Doran hung down his head, and next morning the pig was found at the door of Pat Doolan's cabin.

Peter the Great.

In the course of the Czar's second journey to Holland, in 1716, he arrived at Dantzic on a Sunday, at the very moment the gates of the city were going to be shut, according to custom, during divine service. Informed of this circumstance, the emperor did not wish

to lose the opportunity of seeing the forms of worship in this city, and ordered himself to be conducted to the Cathedral. The reigning Burgomaster was there, and had, in all probability, already been apprized of the arrival of so illustrious a guest; for the moment the Czar entered the church, rising to meet him, he conducted him to his own seat, which was a little more elevated than the rest. Peter sat down bare-headed, and ordered the Burgomaster to sit beside him. He listened to the preacher with the greatest attention, keeping his eyes constantly turned towards the pulpit, while those of the whole congregation were fixed upon himself. A few moments after, feeling his head grow cold, he took, without ceremony or uttering a syllable, the ample perriwig which covered the head of the Burgomaster, and put it on his own; still paying the same profound attention to the discourse from the pulpit. The bald-headed Burgomaster, and the Czar in the grand gala wig, continuing to attend to the sermon, without apparent emotion, put the gravity of the congregation to a severe trial. When the service was over, Peter replaced the wig, with a slight inclination of his head. This little incident seemed to be a thing quite of course with the Russian monarch; and one of his attendants assured the deputation of the city, that the emperor never paid any attention to such matters; and that as he had not much hair, it was his custom, as often as he felt cold, to take the wig of Prince Menzicoff, or that of any other nobleman who happened to be within his reach.

Cross-Purposes.

It was customary with Frederic the Great of Prussia, whenever a new soldier appeared in his guards, to ask him three questions, viz. How old are you? How long have you been in my service? Are you satisfied with your pay and treatment? It happened that a young soldier born in France, and who had served in his own country, desired to enlist into the Prussian service, and his figure was such as to cause him immediately to be accepted. He was totally ignorant of the German language, but his captain gave him notice that the king would question him in that language the first time he saw him, and therefore cautioned him to learn by heart the three answers that he was to make the king. The soldier learned them by the next day; and as soon as he appeared in the ranks, Frederic came up to interrogate him. His majesty, however, happened to begin with the second question first, and asked him, How long have you been in my service? 'Twenty-one years,' answered the soldier. The king, struck with his youth, which plainly indicated he had not borne a musket so long as that, said to him much astonished, 'How old are you?' 'One year, it please your majesty.' Frederic still more astonished, cried, 'You or I must certainly be bereft of our senses.' The soldier,

who took this for the third question, replied firmly, 'Both, an't please your majesty.' 'This is the first time I ever was treated as a madman at the head of my army,' rejoined Frederic. The soldier, who had exhausted his stock of German, stood silent; and when the king again addressed him, in order to penetrate the mystery, the soldier told him in French, that he did not understand a word of German. The king laughed heartily, and after exhorting him to perform his duty, left him.

Royal Quarrel.

The personal enmity which subsisted between King George II. and Frederic, King of Prussia, reached at one time to such a height, that, as Baron Byfield was informed on good authority, the monarchs actually conceived the very singular design of gratifying it in a duel. King George made choice of Brigadier Sutton for his second; and the King of Prussia, of Colonel Derschau. The territory of Hildersheim was pitched on for the meeting: his Britannic Majesty was then at Hanover, and his Prussian Majesty had come as far as Saltzdahl, near Brunswick. Baron Borek, the Prussian minister at London, and lately dismissed from that court in a very abrupt manner, having repaired to the king, his master, at Saltzdahl, found him in such a violent passion, that he did not think it advisable directly to oppose his design; but, to gain time, feigned to approve of the extraordinary combat which his majesty meditated, and he even offered to carry the challenge. But coming into the king's apartment an hour after, he took the liberty of speaking to him in the following manner: 'Sire, I allow that your majesty's quarrel is not to be terminated any other way than by a duel; but your majesty being but just raised from a dangerous sickness, and your health being still precarious, should you be taken with a relapse the day before the affair, or perhaps at the very time, what would the world say, and how would the King of England make his boasts? How many scandalous constructions would be put on this accident! What an odious suspicion might it not bring on your majesty's courage! These things considered, do not you think, sir, it would be better to stay a fortnight?' The king is said to have yielded to these reasons, though with some difficulty: the challenge was not sent; the ministers on both sides gained time; the choler of both parties evaporated, and the following year the quarrel was made up.

Would-be Author.

A young man presented to the manager of the Vaudeville of Paris a piece, which, to make up for an utter want of plot, action, and incident, overflowed with typographical errors. The manager, with the humane design of curing the youth of his metromania, described

to him all the hazards of that dramatic sea on which he seemed desirous to embark, and earnestly recommended him to turn his attention to some more sober employment. 'Ah, sir,' replied the incorrigible, 'I must follow my destiny; were I alone in the world, I must be an author!'

Quieting a Pig.

Charles V. going to see the cloister of the Dominicans at Vienna, fell in with a peasant upon the road who was carrying a pig; the noise being disagreeable to the emperor, he asked the peasant if he had not learned the method of making a pig be quiet? The rustic confessed ingenuously that he had not, and added, that he should be very glad to be acquainted with it. 'Take the pig by the tail,' said the emperor, 'and you will see that it will soon be silent.' The peasant finding that the emperor was in the right, said, 'You must have learned the trade much longer than I, sir, for you understand it a great deal better.'

Spenser's Fairy Queen.

When Spenser had finished his famous poem of the 'Fairy Queen,' he carried it to the Earl of Southampton, the great patron of the poets of that day. The manuscript being sent up to the earl, he read a few pages, and then ordered his servant to give the writer twenty pounds. Reading on, he cried in a rapture, 'Carry the man another twenty pounds.' Proceeding farther, he exclaimed, 'Give him twenty pounds more.' But at length he lost all patience, and said, 'Go turn that fellow out of the house, for if I read farther, I shall be ruined.'

Sterne.

The author of 'Tristram Shandy' used to relate the following anecdote of himself. 'I happened,' said he, 'to be acquainted with a young man from Yorkshire, who rented a window in one of the paved alleys near Cornhill for the sale of stationery. I hired one of the panes of glass from my friend, and stuck up the following advertisement with wafers:—

"Epigrams, anagrams, paragrams, chronograms, monograms, epitaphs, epithalamiums, prologues, epilogues, madrigals, interludes, advertisements, letters, petitions, memorials on every occasion, essays on all subjects, pamphlets for and against ministers, with sermons upon any text, or for any sect, to be written here on reasonable terms, by

"A. B. PHILOLOGER."

'The uncommonness of the titles occasioned numerous applications, and at night I used privately to glide into the office, to digest the notes or heads of the day, and receive the earnest, which was directed always

to be left with the memorandums, the writing to be paid for on delivery, according to the subject.'

Sterne soon became disgusted with this employment, and the moment he had realised a small sum of money, closed the scene.

A Good Paraphrase.

On the eve of a battle, an officer came to ask permission of the Marechal de Toiras to go and see his father, who was on his death-bed. 'Go,' said the general, 'you honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land.'

General Burgoyne.

General Burgoyne formed one of a numerous circle, who were once assembled to hear a tragedy read which it was proposed to bring out on the stage. At the end of the first act, in which no less than thirty characters were introduced, the author, anxious to have the opinion of so able a dramatic critic as the general, asked him what he thought of it? 'Sir,' replied Burgoyne, 'what rank have you in the army?' The poet looked amazed. 'Because,' continued Burgoyne, 'if you are not a lieutenant-general at least, you will never be able to conduct so numerous an army to the end of the piece.'

Choice of Doctors.

Molière, when once travelling through Auvergne, was taken very ill at a distance from any place where he could procure respectable medical aid. It was proposed to him to send for a celebrated physician at Clermont. 'No, no,' said the wit, 'he is too great a man for me; go and bring me the village surgeon; he will not perhaps have the hardihood to kill me.'

Fontenelle.

The Abbé Reignier, secretary of the French Academy, one day made a collection in his hat of one pistole from every member to defray the current expenses. The abbé did not observe that the president, who was a very avaricious man, had put his pistole into the hat, and presented it to him a second time. 'I have given already,' said he. 'I believe it,' said the abbé, 'but I did not see it.' 'And I,' rejoined Fontenelle, who was at his side, 'saw it, but did not believe it.'

Garth and Rowe.

Doctor Garth, who used frequently to go to the Wits' Coffee House, the Cocoa Tree, in St. James's Street, was sitting there one morning conversing with two persons of rank, when Rowe, the poet, who was seldom very attentive to his dress and appearance, but still

insufferably vain of being noticed by persons of consequence, entered. Placing himself in a box nearly opposite to that in which the doctor sat, he looked constantly round with a view of catching his eye ; but not succeeding, he desired the waiter to ask him for his snuff-box, which he knew to be a valuable one, set with diamonds, and the present of some foreign prince. After taking a pinch, he returned the box, but asked for it again so repeatedly, that Garth, who knew him well, perceived the drift, and taking from his pocket a pencil, wrote on the lid the two Greek characters, $\Phi \rho$ (phi, rho), *Fie ! Rowe !* The poet was so mortified, that he quitted the room immediately.

The Plagiarist.

A young author obtained permission from the celebrated satirist Piron, to read him a tragedy which was on the eve of being brought out. At every verse that was pillaged, Piron took off his hat and bowed ; and so frequently had he occasion to do this, that the author, surprised, asked what he meant ? 'Oh,' replied Piron, 'it is only a habit I have got of saluting my acquaintance.'

City Glutton.

The celebrated John Wilkes attended a city dinner, not long after his promotion to city honours. Among the guests was a noisy vulgar deputy, a great glutton, who, on his entering the dinner-room, always with great deliberation took off his wig, suspended it on a pin, and with due solemnity put on a white cotton nightcap. Wilkes, who certainly was a high-bred man, and never accustomed to similar exhibitions, could not take his eyes from so strange and novel a picture. At length the deputy, with unblushing familiarity, walked up to Wilkes, and asked him whether he did not think that his nightcap became him ? 'O yes, sir,' replied Wilkes, 'but it would look much better if it was pulled quite over your face.'

Extraordinary Marksman.

The following notice appeared in the daily papers for the 15th of July, 1791. The best marksman in the City Trainbands, laid a wager yesterday evening, that he would hit St. Paul's Cathedral with a single ball, from the door of Newberry's shop ! What is more remarkable, he won his wager !

Pleasures of a Country Life.

The following letter from the late Sir John Dalrymple to his relative, Admiral Dalrymple, was an entertaining, but not overcharged, picture of the sort of felicity which too commonly attends the retirement to the country,

of men whose lot has been cast amid the busier scenes of city life :—

'Cranston, January 1, 1792.'

'MY DEAR SIR,—You asked me what I had been doing ? To the best of my memory, what has passed since I came home is as follows :—

'Finding the roof bad, I sent slaters, at the peril of their necks, to repair it. They mended three holes, and made thirty themselves.

'I pulled down as many walls round the house as would have fortified a town. This was in summer ; but now that winter is come, I would give all the money to put them up again that it cost me to take them down.

'I thought it would give a magnificent air to the hall, to throw the passage into it. After it was done, I went out of town to see how it looked. It was night when I went into it ; the wind blew out the candle, from the over-size of the room ; upon which I ordered the partition to be built up again, that I might not die of cold in the midst of summer.

'I ordered the old timber to be thinned ; to which, perhaps, the love of lucre a little contributed. The workmen, for every tree they cut down, destroyed three, by letting them fall on each other. I received a momentary satisfaction from hearing that the carpenter I employed had cut off his thumb in felling a tree. But this pleasure was soon allayed, when, upon examining his measure, I found that he had measured false, and cheated me of 20 per cent.

'Remembering with a pleasing complacency the Watcombe pigs, I paid thirty shillings for a sow with pigs, and my wife starved them. They ran over to a madman, Lord —, who distrained them for damage ; and the mother, with ten helpless infants, died of bad usage.

'Loving butter much, and cream more, I bought two Dutch cows, and had plenty of both. I made my wife a present of two more : she learned the way to market for their produce, and I have never got a bowl of cream since.

'I made a fine haystack, but quarrelled with my wife as to the manner of drying the hay and building the stack. The stack took fire, by which I had the double mortification of losing my hay, and finding my wife had more sense than myself.

'I kept no plough, for which, I thank my Maker ; because then I must have wrote this letter from a jail.

'I paid £20 for a dunghill, because I was told it was a good thing ; and now I would give anybody 20s. to tell me what to do with it.

'I built and stocked a pigeon-house ; but the cats watched below, and the hawks hovered above ; and pigeon soup, roasted pigeon, or cold pigeon-pie, I have never seen since.

'I fell to drain a piece of low ground behind the house ; but I hit upon the tail of the

rock, and drained the well of the house, by which I can get no water for my victuals.

'I entered into a great project for selling lime, upon a promise from one of my own farmers to give me land off his farm; but when I went to take off my ground, he laughed, said he had choused the lawyer, and exposed me to a dozen law-suits for breach of bargains which I could not perform.

'I fattened black cattle and sheep; but could not agree with the butchers about the price. From mere economy, we ate them ourselves, and almost killed all the family with surfeits.

'I brewed much beer; but the small turned sour, and the servants drank all the strong.

'I found a ghost in the house, whose name was M'Alister, a pedlar, that had been killed in one of the rooms at the top of the house two centuries ago. No servant would go on errand after the sun was set, for fear of M'Alister, which obliged me to send off one set of my servants. Soon after the house-keeper, your old friend Mrs. Browne, died, aged ninety; and then the belief ran that another ghost was in the house, upon which many of the new set of servants begged leave to quit the house, and got it.

'In one thing only I have succeeded; I have quarrelled with all my neighbours; so that, with a dozen gentlemen's seats in my view, I stalk along like a lion in a desert.

'I thought I should have been happy with my tenants, because I could be insolent to them without their being insolent to me: but they paid me no rent; and in a few days I shall have above one-half of the very few friends I have in the country in a prison.

'Such being the pleasures of a country life, I intend to quit them all in about a month to submit to the mortification of spending the spring in London, where I am happy to hear that Mrs. Dalrymple is doing well. May God preserve her long to you, for she is a fine creature.

'Just when I was going to you last spring, I received a letter from Bess that she was dying. I put off my journey to Watcombe, and almost killed myself with posting to Scotland, where I found madam in perfect good health.—Yours always, my dear Jack,

'JOHN DALRYMPLE.'

A Strange Acquaintance.

Lord Kaimcs used to relate a story of a man who claimed the honour of his acquaintance on rather singular grounds. His lordship, when one of the justiciary judges, returning from the north circuit to Perth, happened one night to sleep at Dunkeld. The next morning, walking towards the ferry, but apprehending he had missed his way, he asked a man whom he met to conduct him. The other answered, with much cordiality, 'That I will do with all my heart, my lord. Does not your lordship remember me? My name's John —, I have had the *honour* to be before your lordship for stealing sheep!'

'Oh, John! I remember you well; and how is *your* wife? She had the honour to be before me too, for receiving them, knowing them to be stolen.'—'At your lordship's service. We were very lucky; we got off for want of evidence, and I am still going on in the butcher trade.' 'Then,' replied his lordship, 'we may have the *honour* of meeting again.'

A Digression.

The celebrated Henderson, the actor, was seldom known to be in a passion. When at Oxford, he was one day debating with a fellow-student, who not keeping his temper, threw a glass of wine in his face. Mr. Henderson took out his handkerchief, wiped his face, and coolly said, 'That, sir, was a digression; now for the argument.'

Whims of Age.

Some years ago, six old men and six old women were subpoenaed out of the town of Stockport on a trial in the court of Westminster. The *eldest* of the men was *one hundred and five*, and the *youngest*, *sixty-seven*; the *eldest* of the women was *one hundred and three*, and the *youngest*, *sixty-five*. Two coaches were provided to take these twelve persons to London; but the old lady, aged one hundred and three, refused to ride in the same coach with the old gentleman of one hundred and five, saying, 'I do not think it prudent to ride with one of his sex; I have supported a good character so far, and I am determined to support it as long as I live in this world!' They all arrived safe at a gentleman's house upon Newington Green, near London. The gentleman wished our old men to be shaved twice a week, but they refused, saying, 'the London barbers were a set of knaves for charging them two pence a piece, for in Stockport they never paid more than one halfpenny a head.' It happened that one of the old men, as he was walking in Bishopsgate Street, read on a board, '*Shaving for one penny*;' he returned and informed his friends of the lucky discovery, and they all set out next morning to get shaved. The old man who found out the penny barber was allowed the honour of sitting first; when the barber had shorn one side of his face, he pulled the cloth away; the old man shouted, 'halloa, measter, you've forgotten to shave this side.' The barber replied, that 'if he shaved the other side, he must have *another penny*!' The old man got up in a rage, called the barber 'a cheating scoundrel, and declared he would return to Stockport half shaved as he was, before he would give him another penny.' He took his handkerchief and wiped the lather off his face, put on his hat, bade adieu to the barber's shop, and with his venerable companions (*knights of the beard*) adjourned to the sign of the '*Fox and Anchor*,' Charter-house Lane, where they

stopped till they got intoxicated ; and it was the third day after, before the gentleman (on whose suit they attended) could prevail on them to get shaved by a *two-penny barber*.

Ingenious Apology.

A French prince once sent an aide-de-camp to a painter, remarkable for his love of jokes and his idleness, commanding his presence. The officer went and brought the artist with him. A picture was given him to copy, and he took it away with him. It was a painting of a house. In a few days the officer went to the painter to see what progress he had made ; and having returned, acquainted the prince that all was done but one chimney, on which the painter was then employed. Some days passed, and the picture was not returned. The prince resolved to go himself. He did so, and found the painter still at the unfinished chimney. 'Why, how is this?' said he, 'all this time employed at one chimney?' 'I have been obliged to do and undo it several times.' 'For what reason?' said the prince. 'I found,' rejoined the artist, 'that it smoked.' The prince laughed heartily, and took his leave.

Electioneering Sermon.

At an election for the town of Bedford, Mr. Whitbread, and Howard the philanthropist, were opposed by Sir Wm. Wake and a Mr. Sparrow. A clergyman of the established church, a warm supporter of the patriotic candidates, one Sunday morning, during the heat of the election, took for his text that passage of St. Matthew's Gospel, in which the question is proposed by our Lord to his disciples, 'Are not two *sparrows* sold for a farthing?' Whence this encouragement to their perseverance and their faith is deduced : fear ye not, therefore, ye are of more value than many *sparrows*.'

King-Making.

A lady of the name of King, who had increased her family annually for several years, was at a party where the circumstance was told to a very facetious gentleman. He soon found out the lady's husband, and though unknown to him, thus accosted him : 'Why, sir, you are like Bonaparte!' The other rather surprised, hastily exclaimed, 'How so, sir?' 'Because,' replied the wit, 'you make a *new* king every year.'

How to Value an Abbé.

A certain Abbé, who was an accomplished, but tiresome man, called upon a Venetian gentleman, who was just going out, and denounced him by complaints of the world. He said, he was learned and clever ; but that *nessun sapeva stimarlo*, 'that nobody knew his value, or literally, 'that nobody knew how

to value him.' The friend heard him out, put his arm under that of the Abbé, and carried him away with him. They had not walked far, when the gentleman entered the shop of a broker and appraiser, and exclaimed, '*Caro mio, stimame sto Sior Abate, che nessun altro sà stimar.*' 'My good friend, value me this Abbé, whom nobody else knows how to value.'

Venetian Gondolier.

A gondolier was ordered by a foreigner to row to the church of Saint Ermagora e Fortunato, which is known by the name of San Marquola, amongst the Venetian populace. The gondolier not understanding him, rowed him in vain from saint to saint, till, out of all patience, he carried him to the church of *All Saints*, and bade him 'find him out amongst them ; since, for his part, he did not know where else to look for him.'

Smart Retort.

A lady of the name of Madame Bobu had given some offence to M. de Verpillier, the Mayor of Lyons. At a masquerade, the mayor discovered this lady in her disguise, and accosted her in a sarcastic tone, with a quotation from the syllables of the Primer, 'Comment-vous portez-vous, Madame Bab-bi-bo-bu?' She immediately answered, 'Très bien, Monsieur Ca-cc-ci-co-cu.' A sarcasm which, it was said, was not ill applied at hazard.

Stock-Jobbing Doctor.

As Chirac, a celebrated physician, was going to the house of a lady, who had sent for him in a great hurry, he received intelligence that the stocks had fallen. Having a considerable property embarked in the Mississippi scheme, the news made so strong an impression on his mind, that while he was feeling his patient's pulse, he exclaimed, 'Mercy upon me, how they fall ! lower, lower, lower !' The lady in alarm flew to the bell, crying out, 'I am dying ; M. de Chirac says that my pulse gets lower and lower ; so that it is impossible I should live !' 'You are dreaming, madam !' replied the physician, rousing himself from his reverie ; 'your pulse is very good, and nothing ails you ; it was the stocks I was talking of.'

Right of Flogging.

A noted political character of the present day was once passing through his native village, when he saw a fellow beating an ass most unmercifully. 'What will you take for that beast?' said he. 'If it belongs to you, I'll buy it.' 'Ye may have him for ten shillings,' replied the boor. The bargain was struck, and the money paid. 'Now,' said the

young farmer, 'that the beast is mine, what do you mean, you rascal, by beating my ass so brutally?' and following up his words, he gave the fellow a sound drubbing. It is said, but we suspect with less truth than wit, that the countryman on getting home observed that he should never in all his life see an ass after, without thinking of Mr. H.

Literary Resurrection.

The French Academy, prior to a late election to a vacant place in their body, adopted a singular rule with respect to the candidates. It was ordered that they should respectively produce copies of all the works to which they had given birth. To issue an edict of this sort, was in fact to call for a number of publications that had long sunk into obscurity, and many of which indeed were totally destroyed; for it is but too true, as Montaigne observes, that the confounded grocers and trunk-makers have no compassion. One day, one of the most forgotten of the living French poets was, in consequence of this rule, walking on the quay of the Louvre, and narrowly spying into every second-hand bookseller's shop. Suddenly, mortifying spectacle! he observes on the pavement, huddled among other things, one of his fugitive pieces; and anxious to relieve it from its state of degradation, he asks the price of it. 'That, sir?' replied the bookseller, 'that is sixpence.' 'What do you mean by sixpence?' exclaims the author, piqued to find the productions of his genius estimated at so low a rate; 'you do not know what you are selling, friend.' 'Pardon me, sir, I know very well that it is not over and above clever, but then the paper is worth fourpence.' 'Hold, blockhead!' replied the indignant poet, 'here are fifteen pence for it.' Pocketing the work, he added, 'You deserve to know, in order to teach you your trade, that I should have given you thirty for it.'

Irish Negro.

A negro from Montezerrat, or Marigalante, where the Hiberno-Celtic is spoken by all classes, happened to be on the wharf at Philadelphia when a number of Irish emigrants were landed; and seeing one of them with a wife and four children, he stepped forward to assist the family on shore. The Irishman, in his native tongue, expressed his surprise at the civility of the negro; who, understanding what had been said, replied in Irish, that he need not be astonished, for that he was *a bit of an Irishman himself*. The Irishman, surprised to hear a black man speak his *Milesian* dialect, conceived, with the usual rapidity of Irish fancy, that he really was an Irishman, but that the climate had changed his fair complexion. '*If I may be so bold, sir,*' said he, '*may I ask how long you have been in this country?*' The negro man, who had only come hither on a voyage, said he had been in Philadelphia only about four months.

Poor Patrick turned round to his wife and children, and looking as if for the last time

on their rosy cheeks, concluding that in four months they must also change their complexion, exclaimed, 'O merciful powers! Biddy, did you hear that? he is not more than four months in this country, and he is already almost as black as jet.'

Second Thoughts are Best.

The following singular circumstance occurred on a Sunday, in the month of November, 1816, in the church of Seaford. The clergyman, whilst publishing the banns, on coming to the names of a pair of neighbouring rustics, was suddenly surprised by an interruption from one of the congregation, who loudly bawled out, 'I forbid the wedding.' On being desired to retire to the vestry, he was asked if he was a relation of either of the parties: 'No, no,' replied Hodge. 'I'm the bridegroom himself; but, having learned that Ciss has a tongue that, after marriage, will run faster than the clack of her master's mill, I am resolved to be off, so your reverence may marry her yourself if you please.'

Low Life.

During the progress of Mr. Jonas Hanway's exertions in favour of chimney-sweepers, he addressed a little urchin of the sooty tribe, after he had swept a chimney in his own house. 'Suppose now I give you a shilling?' 'God Almighty bless your honour, and thank you.' 'And what if I give you a fine tie wig to wear on May day, which is just at hand?' 'Ah! bless your honour! my master won't let me go out on May day.' 'No; why not?' 'Because he says it is low life.'

Smart Reproof.

In the year 1795, on the anniversary of the murder of Louis XVI., some of the principal French refugees gave a grand entertainment, to which all the persons of distinction in London were invited. The entertainment consisted of a ball, a supper, and a play! The English journals took a very piquant way of expressing their sense of this indecorous exhibition. When the next anniversary of the death of Charles I. arrived, they announced it in the following manner. 'To-morrow is the anniversary of the Martyrdom of Charles the First. The French are acquainted that *there will be no ball.*'

The Milling Admiral.

Several years since, the bargemen of his majesty's ship *Berwick*, then at Spithead, quarrelled with the bargemen of the ship which Admiral Milbank then commanded as captain, and the latter were heartily drubbed, to the no small mortification of the admiral, who was in his younger days exceedingly athletic, and somewhat addicted to boxing. A few days after, the admiral

called the boat's crew together, upbraided them for a set of cowards, dressed himself in a common jacket and trowsers, and observing the *Berwick's* barge rowing ashore to Portsmouth beach, ordered his own to be immediately manned; and thus disguised, took an oar as one of the crew. The coxswain, as particularly directed, run the head of his barge against the *Berwick's* barge quarter, in consequence of which a broadside of oaths were given and returned, which produced a challenge to fight with more substantial weapons. The admiral, as champion of his crew, beat the whole of the other barge's crew, one after the other (eleven in number), to the great joy and admiration of his sailors, and then making himself known, went and visited his friends in Portsmouth, as if nothing had happened.

Lord Bridport.

Talking of the threatened invasion by the French in 1798, Admiral Lord Bridport dryly observed, 'that they might come as they could; for his own part he could only say, that they should not *come by water*.'

Philip, Earl of Stanhope.

Philip, Earl of Stanhope, whose dress always corresponded with the simplicity of his manners, was once prevented from going into the House of Peers, by a door-keeper who was unacquainted with his person. Lord Stanhope was resolved to get into the house, without explaining who he was: and the door-keeper equally determined on his part, said to him, 'Honest man, you have no business here. *Honest man*, you *can* have no business in *this place*.' 'I believe,' rejoined his lordship, 'you are right, *honest men* can have no business here.'

Difference of Dialect.

A Quaker of Scarborough appointed a Scotchman to command a West Indianman, and heard with indignation that Captain C. insisted to have her fitted out with guns. They mutually expostulated on the subject. The respectable, conscientious owner would not permit so flagrant a deviation from his pacific tenets. The brave seaman would not go a voyage in time of war without means to repel an enemy. At length the Caledonian said, 'There is but one way to end this debate. Let (pronounced shoot) yourself, and I shall let myself in half an hour.' The Quaker, shocked by such a measure, hastened to the punting house of Mr. D. who had recommended Captain C. 'Friend!' said he, 'the person thou hast spoken of so highly, is a savage, a madman. Because I would not consent to equip the *Neptune* with guns, he bade me shoot myself, and he would shoot himself in half an hour.' When Mr. D. could suppress his laughing, he explained the pronunciation in frequent use north of the Tweed;

and assured Mr. —, that Captain C. had the interest of his employers in view, by making a point of being enabled to defend their property. The difference was thus amicably settled.

Chester in an Uproar.

About the time of Bonaparte's departure for St. Helena, a respectably dressed man caused a number of handbills to be distributed through Chester, in which he informed the public, that a great number of genteel families had embarked at Plymouth, and would certainly proceed with the British regiment appointed to accompany the ex-emperor to St. Helena; he added farther, that the island being dreadfully infested with rats, his majesty's ministers had determined that it should be forthwith effectually cleared of those obnoxious animals. To facilitate this important purpose, he had been deputed to purchase as many cats and thriving kittens, as could possibly be procured for money in a short space of time; and, therefore, he publicly offered in his hand bills, 16s. for every athletic full-grown Tom cat, 10s. for every adult female puss, and half-a-crown for every thriving vigorous kitten, that could swill milk, pursue a ball of thread, or fasten its young fangs in a dying mouse. On the evening of the third day after this advertisement had been distributed, the people of Chester were astonished with an irruption of a multitude of old women, boys, and girls, into their streets, all of whom carried on their shoulders either a bag or a basket, which appeared to contain some restless animal.

Every road, every lane, was thronged with this comical procession; and the wondering spectators of the scene were involuntarily compelled to remember the old riddle about St. Ives:

As I was going to St. Ives,
I met fifty old wives.
Every wife had fifty sacks,
Every sack had fifty cats,
Every cat had fifty kittens;
Kittens, cats, sacks, and wives,
How many were going to St. Ives?

Before night, a congregation of nearly 3000 cats was collected in Chester. The happy bearers of these sweet-voiced creatures, proceeded all (as directed by the advertisement) towards one street with their delectable burdens. Here they became closely wedged together. A vocal concert soon ensued. The women screamed; the cats squalled; the boys and girls shrieked treble, and the dogs of the streets howled bass, so that it soon became difficult to the nicest ear to ascertain whether the canine, the feline, or the human tones were predominant. Some of the cat-bearing ladies, whose dispositions were not of the most placid nature, finding themselves annoyed by their neighbours, soon cast down their burdens and began to box. A battle royal ensued. The cats sounded the war-whoop with might and main. Meanwhile the boys of the town,

who seemed mightily to relish the sport, were actively employed in opening the mouths of the deserted sacks, and liberating the cats from their forlorn situation. The enraged animals bounded immediately on the shoulders and heads of the combatants, and ran spitting, squalling, and clawing along the undulating sea of skulls, towards the walls of the houses of the good people of Chester. The citizens attracted by the noise, had opened the windows to gaze at the fun. The cats, rushing with the rapidity of lightning up the pillars, and then across the balustrades and galleries, for which the town is so famous, leaped slapdash through the open windows in the apartments. Never since the days of the celebrated Hugh Lupus, were the drawing rooms of Chester filled with such a crowd of unwelcome guests. Now were heard the crashes of broken china; the howling of affrighted dogs; the cries of distressed damsels, and the groans of well-fed citizens. All Chester was soon in arms; and dire were the deeds of vengeance executed on the feline race. Next morning, above five hundred dead bodies were seen floating on the river Dee, where they had been ignominiously thrown by the two-legged victors. The rest of the invading host having evacuated the town, dispersed in the utmost confusion to their respective homes.

Epitaph.

The heir of the Duke de Penthievre died in 1764, a victim to his irregularities, and particularly to his attachment to Mademoiselle Miré, a lady eminent for her musical talents. The Parisian wits, who laugh at everything, made the following very ingenious epitaph, composed of five musical notes, which are supposed to be engraven on his tomb:

MI RE L'A MI LA.

Miré has placed him there.

Personalities.

When Quin and Garrick performed at the same theatre, and in the same play, the night being very stormy, each ordered a chair. To the mortification of Quin, Garrick's chair came up first. 'Let me get into the chair,' cried the surly veteran, 'let me get into the chair, and put little Davy into the lantern.' 'By all means,' said Garrick; 'I shall ever be happy to give Mr. Quin light in anything.'

Trader in Wives.

The following extraordinary advertisement appeared in the *Kentucky Reporter* of the 5th of September, 1817. 'Take notice, and beware of the swindler Jesse Dougherty, who married me in November last, and some time after marriage informed me that he had another wife alive, and before I recovered, the villain left me, and took one of my best horses; one of my neighbours was so good as to follow

him, and take the horse from him, and bring him back. The said Dougherty is about forty years of age, five feet ten inches high, round shouldered, thick lips, complexion and hair dark, grey eyes, remarkably ugly and ill-natured, and very fond of ardent spirits, and by profession a notorious liar. 'This is therefore to warn all widows to beware of the swindler, as all he wants is their property, and he cares not where they go after he gets that. The said Dougherty has a number of wives living, perhaps eight or ten (the number not positively known), and will, no doubt, if he can get them, have eight or ten more. I believe that is the way he makes his living. — Mary Dodd, Livingston County, Ky.'

Connubial Carte and Tierce.

The good people of Horncastle were one evening amused by the following announcement of the bellman: 'J. J. wishes to inform the public, he will not be answerable for any debt or debts his wife Marianne J. may contract after this public notice.' As soon as possible afterwards, the bellman was again sent round with the following: 'M. J. begs to inform the public, she never has, nor does she ever intend, to contract any debts on her husband's credit, well knowing it stands on too slender a foundation.'

Sir John Fielding.

Sir John Fielding, the brother of the celebrated novelist, appears to have inherited no small portion of the family humour, although he has left no record in a lettered form of his comic propensity. On one occasion, after paying a visit to a country gentleman of eminent hospitality, Sir John mounted his horse, in company with several brother convivialists. The knight, though 'a thick drop serene' had quenched the lustre of his orbs, was a fearless horseman. In fact, his steed was trained to obedience, and was familiar with the rider's haunts. Sir John rode forwards; but when he arrived at Hartley Row, under the impulse of the gay purpose of the hour, he checked his horse, and the animal entered the paved yard of an inn. Our traveller was in the habit of wearing a shade over his sightless eyes, which the apprehensiveness and surprise of the innkeeper and his wife converted into a mask. It was during the time of a general panic throughout the country, in consequence of a threatened invasion from France. Sir John found, by the tremulous accents of the people at the inn, that his appearance had produced a striking effect on their imagination, and he accordingly humoured their apprehensions. He, with many significant shrugs, and divers protestations of extreme haste, informed his auditors that the French were landed in great numbers, and were far advanced on their march to the metropolis; that he himself had been captured by the foe, and only released on condition of

wearing a mask or bandage, till six hours were expired. After communicating this intelligence, he quitted the inn.

It happened that the innkeeper's wife was one of the most credulous among the weak. Terrified beyond measure, she hastened and buried all the money she could collect, and threw the household plate into the well for safety. The whole house was in commotion, from the stable yard to the topmost garret. The joke was, of course, soon detected, and the identity of the knight shortly ascertained. So high was the indignation of the silly host, when he discovered the extent of the hoax, that he commenced an action against the vagabond alarmist. The cause was tried at Winchester, when the plaintiff was nonsuited.

Seeing the Pope.

Immediately after the peace of 1815, there was a great number of Austrian officers at Rome, so that scarcely a day passed on which several strangers were not introduced to the Pope. Among the rest, a Bohemian lieutenant, who did not understand a word of any language except his own native dialect, wished to have an audience of his holiness. The Pope, whose condescension does not allow any person to be refused admittance to him, was previously informed how difficult it would be to have any conversation with the Bohemian. When the audience commenced, therefore, his holiness, with some embarrassment, merely said to the lieutenant, at the same time clapping him on the shoulder, '*Bravo, guerrière! bravo, guerrière!*' The true-hearted Bohemian hastily seized the hand of the successor of St. Peter, shook it heartily, and said, '*Bravo, papa! bravo, papa!*'

Handel.

The celebrated composer, Handel, had such a remarkable irritation of nerves, that he could not bear to hear the tuning of instruments, and therefore this was always done before he arrived at the theatre. A musical vag, who knew how to extract some mirth from Handel's irascibility of temper, stole into the orchestra on a night when the Prince of Wales was to be present, and untuned all his instruments. As soon as the prince arrived, Handel gave the signal of beginning, *on spirito*; but such was the horrible discord, that the enraged musician started up from his seat, and having overturned a double bass, which stood in his way, he seized a kettle-drum, which he threw with such violence at the leader of the band, that he lost his full-bottomed wig in the effort. Without waiting to replace it, he advanced bare-headed to the front of the orchestra, breathing vengeance, but so much choked with passion, that utterance was denied him. In this ridiculous attitude he stood staring and stamping for some moments, amidst a convulsion of laughter:

nor could he be prevailed upon to resume his seat, until the prince went in person, and with much difficulty appeased his wrath.

Making the Most of a Good Thing.

When the baggage of Lady Hamilton was landed at Palermo, Lord Nelson's coxswain was very active in conveying it to the ambassador's hotel. Lady Hamilton observed this, and presenting the man with a moidore, said 'Now, my friend, what will you have to drink?' 'Why, *please your honour*,' said the coxswain, 'I am not thirsty.' 'But,' said her ladyship, 'Nelson's steersman must drink with me, so what will you take, a dram, a glass of grog, or a glass of punch?' 'Why,' said Jack, 'as I am to drink with your ladyship's honour, it wouldn't be good manners to be backward, so I'll take the dram now, and will be drinking the glass of grog, while your ladyship is mixing the tumbler of punch for me.'

Ludicrous Mistake.

The death of M. Perrier, of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, in 1819, occasioned a strange mistake. The Secretary of the Royal Society of Sciences, happened also to be named Perrier. At a meeting of the latter body, a chevalier entered, and with a countenance woe-begone, took his place among his brethren, then solemnly arose, and drew from his pocket a manuscript, and with a faltering voice and a look of the deepest sorrow, began a funeral oration 'upon his deceased friend.' What was his surprise, when his 'deceased friend' stood up from the president's chair, which he filled, (the panegyrist being so blinded with tears as not to observe him sooner,) declined the honour about to be conferred on him, thanked his friend in the warmest terms, and proposed, amidst roars of laughter, to adjourn the oration *sine die*!

Hunchback.

About 1725, one of the most remarkable characters in the public haunts of Paris, was a hunch-backed gentleman of the name of Renardot. He was a man of a droll turn of mind; cared nothing for his own deformity of person, and delighted to tease those who, equally unfortunate in this respect, were not possessed of the same philosophic indifference. In walking the streets, or the boulevards, it was his constant practice, when he perceived another hunch-back, to step up and whisper in his ear, pointing at the same time to his own protuberance, 'If you are content, sir, so may I.' The frequent repetition of this salutation soon made him as universally known, as hated, by all the other hunch-backs of Paris; he was their common pest; and there

was not one of them who would not at any time have gone a mile out of his way, to avoid the ingenious tormentor.

Heidegger.

The late facetious Duke of Montagu gave an entertainment at the Devil Tavern, Temple Bar, to several noblemen and gentlemen; selecting the most convivial, and a few hard drinkers. Heidegger the Swiss, who was so long the *Arbiter Elegantiarum* of the metropolis, was invited; and in a few hours after dinner, was so much inebriated, that he was carried out of the room, and laid insensible upon a bed. A profound sleep ensued; when an artist was introduced, who took a mould from his face in plaster of Paris. From this a mask was made; and a few days before the next masquerade at the King's Theatre, a species of entertainment which had risen in great repute under the superintendence of Heidegger, the Duke of Montague made application to Heidegger's valet de chambre, to know what suit of clothes he was likely to wear; and then procuring a similar dress, and a person of the same stature, he gave him his instructions how to act. The masquerade was honoured by the presence of the king. As soon as his majesty was seated, being always known to the conductor of the entertainment, though concealed by his dress from the company, Heidegger ordered the music to play 'God Save the King;' but his back was no sooner turned, than the false Heidegger ordered them to strike up, 'O'er the Water to Charlie.' The whole company were instantly thunderstruck; and all the courtiers not in the plot were in the most stupid consternation. Heidegger flew to the musical gallery in a violent rage, and accused the musicians of drunkenness, or of being set on by some secret enemy to ruin him. The king and his immediate attendants laughed immoderately. While Heidegger stood in the gallery, 'God save the King' was the tune; but when, after setting matters to rights, he retired to one of the dancing-rooms, to observe if decorum was kept by the company, the counterfeit stepping forward, and placing himself upon the floor of the theatre, just in front of the music gallery, called out in a most audible voice, imitating Heidegger, 'Block-heads! did not I tell you this moment to play "O'er the Water to Charlie?"' A pause ensued: the musicians, who knew his character, thought him in their turn either drunk or mad; but as he continued his vociferation, 'Charlie' was played again. At this repetition of the supposed affront, some of the officers of the guards were for ascending the gallery and kicking the musicians out; but the late Duke of Cumberland, who relished the *mal-à-propos* amazingly, interposed. The company were thrown into great confusion. 'Shame! shame!' resounded from all parts; and Heidegger once more flew, in a violent rage, to that part of the theatre facing the gallery. Here the Duke of Montague artfully

addressing him, told him that the king was in a violent passion; that his best way was to go instantly and make an apology; and afterwards to discharge the musicians, who were to a certainty mad. Almost at the same instant the duke ordered the false Heidegger to do the same. The scene became now truly comic in the circle before the king. Heidegger had no sooner made a genteel apology for the insolence of his musicians, than the false Heidegger advanced, and in a plaintive tone cried out, 'Indeed, sire, it was not my fault, but that devil's in my likeness.' Poor Heidegger turned round, stared, staggered, grew pale, and could not utter a word. The duke then whispered into his ear the sum of his plot; the counterfeit was ordered to take off his mask, and here the frolic ended.

Heidegger's countenance was particularly unpleasing, from an unusual harshness of features. Hogarth has introduced it into more than one of his prints. Heidegger was however the first to joke upon his own ugliness; and he once laid a wager with the Earl of Chesterfield, that within a certain given time, his lordship would not be able to produce so hideous a face in all London. After a laborious search, a woman was found whose features were at first sight thought stranger than Heidegger's; but upon clapping her head-dress upon Heidegger, he was unanimously allowed to have won the wager.

Hoaxers Hoaxed.

Two adventurers of the lower class, seeing the favour which the Franks enjoyed with the Sultan, Selim III., who died in 1807, and how very easy he was of access, resolved, if possible, to profit by the liberality of this munificent prince; and success appeared to them easy, if they could but present him with some novelty, no matter how strange or ridiculous their invention might be, provided they could make it pass for European. After devising and rejecting various plans to make the sultan draw his purse-strings, they at last hit upon the following scheme.—They caused a report to be spread, that a stranger had recently arrived in the city, bringing with him a wonderful bear, which could play extremely well upon the pianoforte. Gossip fame soon spread the news; and the sultan gave orders that the bear should be brought to exhibit its wonderful talents in his sublime presence. Accordingly, at the appointed hour, the bear and his leader, rejoicing in what they considered the certain success of their scheme, took the road to the seraglio. Being introduced into the interior apartments, they were conducted into one, where concealed behind Venetian blinds, all the ladies of the harem were waiting the arrival of the sultan, that the wonderful spectacle might begin. Their impatience was soon gratified; his highness arrived, and the moment he entered, he was observed to regard Bruin very attentively. Animated with the hope of pleasing the royal spectator, our bear performed wonders; he

danced, caressed his master, and played a variety of tricks; to which the sultan paid great attention. At last came the great trial of Bruin's powers; he was ordered by his master to play. Raising himself on his hind-legs, he performed, with his fore-paws, a piece of music in the best style; and captivated the sultan so completely, that he eagerly asked the owner of this wonderful animal to set a price upon him. This unexpected proposal threw Bruin into great confusion; and increased when he found that his master, fearful lest an abrupt refusal should discover the trick, appeared inclined to come to terms: 'Pray,' whispered the bear, while he appeared to caress his leader, 'do not leave me here!' But the caresses which he gave his master made the sultan more eager to purchase him. At last, the pretended owner thought to put an end to a scene, which he plainly perceived Bruin could not sustain much longer, by demanding an exorbitant price for him. 'Count the sum required,' cried the magnificent Selim, 'and take this animal to my menagerie.' The first part of the order was instantly obeyed by the khasnader; and the other officers approached the bear, to fulfil the second part of it.

Till now our animal had behaved with wonderful gentleness; but the moment was arrived when he found it necessary to show that he possessed all the fierceness of his species. Intrenching himself in the angle of the apartment which was opposite to the door, he waited impatiently till he saw it open; when suddenly raising himself upon his hind-legs, he rushed out, followed by his leader. No one offered to stop him, because they thought his master pursued in order to bring him back. He might suppose, that the Sultan Selim would have been sufficiently exasperated to have set a price upon the heads of the two prudent knaves; but having, from the moment he saw the bear, penetrated the trick, the only revenge which he determined to take was to give them a hearty fright in return for the insult they had offered.

Caledoniana.

While the negotiation for peace between Lord Malmesbury on the part of Britain, and the

French Directory was pending, an Englishman and a Scotchman who happened to meet at a country inn were conversing together on the subject. With all Englishmen, peace was at the time more earnestly desired; taxes pressed heavily, and took only a relish for the bubble reputation which gained at the cannon's mouth. With Scotchmen, on the contrary, nothing was so popular as the continuance of war; it had been to them peculiarly a harvest of money; and as a nation, they paid less in taxes than they received back in grants and bounties.

The conversation between the two travellers was a perfect exemplification of the feelings of their respective countries. The Englishman was of opinion, that there was

almost no sacrifice which ought not to be made for the sake of peace. The Scotchman insisted that it would be an eternal disgrace to yield a single inch, and added sarcastically, that in the high humour in which the French Directory were, he would not be surprised if they made it a *sine qua non*, that Scotland should be ceded to France; following up his remark with a hearty laugh at the extravagance of the idea. 'O ho!' rejoined the Englishman, 'is that all you know about it? Don't you know that Lord Malmesbury carried out instructions with him to cede Scotland, but that on offering it to the Directory, they spurned the offer, unless Cumberland (worth something) was added to it?'

A Scotch pedestrian attacked by three highwaymen defended himself with great courage and obstinacy, but was at last overpowered, and his pockets rifled. The robbers expected, from the extraordinary resistance they had experienced, to lay their hands on some rich booty; but were not a little surprised to discover, that the whole treasure which the sturdy Caledonian had been defending at the hazard of his life, consisted of no more than a crooked sixpence! 'The deuce is in him,' said one of the rogues; 'if he had had eighteenpence, I suppose he would have killed the whole of us.'

As two military officers of the sister countries of Ireland and Scotland were passing along Piccadilly, their attention was arrested by a pretty girl at work with her needle, behind the counter of a *Magazin des Modes*. The Hibernian instantly proposed to go into the shop and purchase some trifle, by way of excuse for obtaining a nearer inspection of the fair damsel. 'Hoot awa', man,' said the equally curious but more economical Scot, 'there's na' occasion to throw awa' siller, let's gang in, and ask change o' twa sixpences for a shilling!'

Electioneering Bill.

Mr. Edgeworth, in his memoirs, relates a whimsical anecdote respecting Sir Francis Delaval's electioneering at Andover. The attorney's bill was not discharged. It had been running on for many years, and though large sums had been paid on account, a prodigious balance still remained to be adjusted. The affair came before the Court of King's Bench, when among a variety of exorbitant and monstrous charges, there appeared the following article:

'To being thrown out of the George Inn, Andover; to my legs being thereby broken; to surgeon's bill, and loss of time and business, all in the service of Sir F. B. Delaval. . . . £500.

When this curious *item* came to be explained, it appeared that the attorney had, by way of promoting Sir Francis's interest in the borough, sent cards of invitation to the officers

of a regiment in the town, in the name of the mayor and corporation, inviting them to dine and drink his majesty's health on his birthday. He at the same time wrote a similar invitation to the mayor and corporation, in the name of the officers of the regiment. The two parties met, complimented each other, ate a good dinner, drank a hearty bottle of wine to his majesty's health, and prepared to break up. The commanding officer of the regiment, being the politest man in the company, made a handsome speech to Mr. Mayor, thanking him for his hospitable invitation and entertainment. 'No, colonel,' replied the mayor, 'it is to you that thanks are due, by me and my brother aldermen, for your generous treat to us.' The colonel replied with as much warmth as good breeding would allow; the mayor retorted in downright anger, vowing that he would not be choused by the bravest colonel in his majesty's service. 'Mr. Mayor,' said the colonel, 'there is no necessity for displaying any vulgar passion on this occasion; permit me to show you that I have here your obliging card of invitation.' 'Nay, Mr. Colonel, here is no opportunity for bantering; there is your card.' Upon examining the cards, it was observed that, notwithstanding an attempt to disguise it, both cards were written in the same hand, by some person who had designed to hoax them all. Every eye of the corporation turned spontaneously upon the attorney, who of course attended the meeting. His impudence suddenly gave way, he faltered, and betrayed himself so fully by his confusion, that the colonel, in a fit of summary justice, threw him out of the window. For this Sir Francis Delaval was charged five hundred pounds.

Dreaming Match.

Sir William Johnson, who was superintendent of Indian affairs in America previous to the Revolution, received some suits of clothes from England richly laced, when Hendrick, king of the five nations of Mohawks, was present. The chief admired them much, but did not say anything at the time. In a few days Hendrick called on Sir William, and acquainted him that he had had a particular dream. On Sir William inquiring what it was, he told him he had dreamed that he gave him one of those fine suits which he had received from over the great water. Sir William took the hint, and immediately presented him with one of the richest suits. Hendrick, highly pleased with this generosity, retired. A short time after this, Sir William happening to be in company with Hendrick, told him that he also had had a dream. Hendrick being very solicitous to know what it was, Sir William informed him that he had dreamed that he (Hendrick) had made him a present of a particular tract of land (the most valuable on the Mohawk river) of about five thousand acres. Hendrick presented him with the land immediately, with this shrewd remark: 'Now, Sir William, I will

never dream with you again; you dream too hard for me.' The tract thus obtained is called to the present day, 'Sir William's Dreaming Land.'

Pope's Last Illness.

During Pope's last illness, a squabble happened in his chamber between his two physicians, Dr. Burton and Dr. Thompson, they mutually charging each other with hastening the death of the patient by improper prescriptions. Pope at length silenced them, saying, 'Gentlemen, I only learn by your discourse that I am in a dangerous way; therefore all I now ask is, that the following epigram may be added after my death to the next edition of the "Dunciad," by way of postscript:

"Dunces rejoice, forgive all censures past,
The greatest dunce has kill'd your foe at last."

Funeral Invitation.

Sir Boyle Roach had a servant who was as great an original as his master. Two days after the death of the baronet, this man waited upon a gentleman, who had been a most intimate friend of Sir Boyle, for the purpose of telling him that the time at which the funeral was to have taken place had been changed. 'Sir,' says he, 'my master sends his compliments to you, and he wont be buried till to-morrow evening.'

A Severe Lesson.

M. de la Place relates the following amusing anecdote of the late Count d'Egmont, as delivered to him by the count himself. 'I had not been,' said he, 'more than six months in the Mousquetaires, before, enchanted at being released from the trammels of the school, which had for a long time annoyed me exceedingly, I plunged blindly into the vortex of pleasures, in which I saw my young companions enjoying themselves.

'One night, after having dined sumptuously and joyfully with several of my friends, we proceeded to the opera, which we found exceedingly crowded, and where, after having pushed and squeezed ourselves in as well as we could, we obtained standing room in the centre of the pit. There, forced to stop, I should, as my companions did, have waited with great patience, if I had not, unluckily, found directly before me an old gentleman in a brigadier's wig, whose amplitude formed before my eyes a species of screen, which totally concealed from me anything that was going forward on the stage, and especially prevented me from seeing a young dancing girl, in whom I felt a great interest.

'After having begged and prayed the gentleman, whom I was already incommoding exceedingly, to allow me a glimpse of the stage, by a certain change of position, which he drolly answered was impossible; irritated by his

coolness and my own awkward situation, at which, to crown my misery, my neighbours, and especially my young companions, were heartily laughing, I took from my pocket a pair of scissors, with which I set to work, not only to prune away the superfluous branches and foliage, if I may use the expression, which annoyed me, but also the thick clubs which served to ornament its tail.

The bursts of laughter which my vengeance excited having awakened my gentleman from the species of apathy in which he till then seemed buried, he perceived the state to which I had reduced his wig. "My young friend," said he, turning round as well as he could, "I expect you will not leave the house without me." This little civility, continued the Count d'Egmont, and especially a certain glance of the eye by which it was accompanied, by making me sensible of the whole extent of my folly, moderated, I confess, considerably the pleasure I had felt in committing it; however, the wine was poured out, and I felt that I was compelled to drink it. At the conclusion of the opera, my gentleman, without speaking, gave me a sign to follow him.

After having crossed, not without difficulty, the square of the Palais-Royal, and passed through the Rue St. Thomas du Louvre, we came under the arcade, where, stopping suddenly, "M. Le Comte d'Egmont," said he, "for I have the honour of being acquainted with you, you are young; and I owe you a lesson, for which your late father, whom I knew better than I do you, would perhaps have thanked me: when a man gives a public insult, and especially to an old soldier, he ought at least to know how to fight. Let us see," continued he, drawing his sword, "how you will acquit yourself." Enraged and humiliated by a proposition which seemed to me to border on contempt, I rushed on him with all the impetuosity of which my youth and my indignation rendered me capable; but my gentleman, without being in the least discomfited, as steady as a rock, contented himself with parrying my thrusts by the most insistent parades in the world, and at last made no other return to my attacks than by a quip, which made my sword fly out of my hand to the distance of five or six paces. "Pick up your sword, Monsieur le Comte," said he, with the same coolness, "it is not like an opera-cancer, but like a brave cavalier, with a firm foot and a steady eye, that a man of your age ought to fight; and this is what I now give you to do."

"You are most cruelly in the right," answered I, endeavouring to stifle the feelings which were agitating me, "and I hope soon to prove myself worthy of your esteem." Suddenly determined rather to perish than expose myself to fresh sarcasms from this singular enemy, I placed myself opposite to him, and attacked him with a coolness equal to that which he displayed in defending himself. "Very well, very well, indeed," exclaimed, from time to time, this devil in human form, "until the moment when, having run me through with sword arm, he said, 'There; that's

enough for the present.'" So saying, placing me against the wall, and telling me to wait till he came back, he ran to the Palais-Royal, brought a coach, bound up my wound with a handkerchief, and telling the coachman to drive up to the Mousquetaires de la Rue de Beaune, he delivered me into the hands of the porter, and took his leave.

After a confinement of more than six weeks, which were required to cure my wound, I had not rejoined the world more than a week, when one evening, going into the Café de la Regence to look for some of my companions, I recognised my gentleman, who quitted his seat, placed his finger on his mouth, and exclaiming "Chut!" rose, came towards me, and made me a signal to follow him. Arrived under the same archway, "You have amused yourself a little at my expense, my dear count," said he, "in recounting our adventure, and I have too great a regard for you, not to contribute all in my power to render it still more agreeable, by furnishing a continuation, which you may add to the story when you next relate it. Come, draw your sword."

This second lesson, which was very similar to the first, was followed some months after by a third. This executioner, if I may so call him, at last became so terrible to me, that I hardly ever ventured into public without feeling a sort of shudder, lest I should encounter him, for I had forgot to mention, that the last lesson which he had condescended to give me was on the eve of the carnival, which he had made me pass in the most melancholy manner possible, in my bed.

Judge, therefore, of my joy, as well as gratitude, when a waiter from the Café de la Regence arrived one morning at my lodgings, and said, "You will pardon me, Monsieur le Comte, but I thought you would not be sorry to hear that Monsieur 'Chut' died last night, and my mistress hopes we shall soon see you again at our house."

Nerves.

When a late Duchess of Bedford was last at Buxton, and then in her eighty-fifth year, it was the medical farce of the day, for the faculty to resolve every complaint of whim and caprice into 'a shock of the nervous system.' Her grace, after inquiring of many of her friends in the rooms what brought them there, and being generally answered, for a nervous complaint, was asked in her turn, 'What brought her to Buxton?' 'I came only for pleasure,' answered the healthy duchess; 'for, thank God, I was born before nerves came into fashion.'

Master of a Parish.

As a lame country schoolmaster was hobbling one morning upon two sticks to his noisy mansion, he was met by a nobleman, who inquired his name, and the means by which he procured

a livelihood? 'My name,' answered he, 'is R. T., and I am *master* of this parish.' This answer increased the curiosity of his lordship, and he desired to know how he was *master* of the parish? 'I am,' replied the pedagogue, 'the *master* of the children of the parish; the children are masters of their *mothers*; the mothers are the rulers of the *fathers*; and consequently I am the *master* of the whole *parish*.' His lordship was pleased with this logical reply, and made the schoolmaster a present.

Duke de Roclore.

The Duke de Roclore, the favourite wit and buffoon of Louis XIV., was in his person far from being agreeable; his countenance was rather forbidding, and his person ill formed. Another nobleman, whose person was even inferior to that of Roclore, having killed his antagonist in a duel, applied to the duke for his interest and protection, knowing it was the only channel through which he could obtain a pardon. The duke readily engaged in his friend's interest, and fairly rallied the king into a compliance. After the king had finished a fit of laughter, and given his royal promise, he enquired of Roclore what could possibly induce him to be so strenuous in his intercession? 'I will tell your majesty,' said the facetious duke; 'if he had suffered, I should then have been the ugliest man in France.'

Renewing a Promise.

A late noble lord, who was sparing of money and lavish of promises, had given his note to a gentleman for a considerable sum he owed him; it had been long due, and the peer never failed when he met him to make a handsome apology. Tired with promises that were never intended to be realized, the creditor one day, in answer to a new promise, said he had no doubt of his lordship's honour, and that he would pay it at the time he then fixed; 'but,' added he, 'in the meantime, as this note is almost worn out, I should be glad if your lordship would take it up, and give me one upon parchment.' The peer being a man of wit, could not stand the severity of the rebuke, but paid the money almost immediately.

Spanish Punctilio.

When a late royal bride of Spain was on her road towards Madrid, she passed through a little town in Spain, famous for the manufacture of gloves and stockings. The honest magistrates of the place thought they could not better express their joy for the reception of their new queen, than by presenting her with a sample of those commodities, for which alone their town was remarkable. The major-domo, who conducted the queen, received the gloves very graciously; but when the stockings were presented, he flung them away with great in-

dignation, and severely reprimanded the magistrates for this egregious piece of indecency. 'Know,' said he, 'that a queen of Spain has no legs.' The poor young queen, who at that time understood the language but very imperfectly, and had been often frightened with stories of Spanish jealousy, imagined that they were to cut off her legs. Upon this she fell a crying, and begged them to conduct her to Germany, for that she could never endure that operation; and it was with some difficulty they could appease her. Philip V. is said never in his life to have enjoyed a good laugh, but at the recital of this story.

Formal Correspondence.

Dr. Schmidt, of the Cathedral of Berlin, wrote a letter to the King of Prussia, couched in the following terms:

'SIRE,—I acquaint your majesty, first, that there are wanting Books of Psalms for the royal family. I acquaint your majesty, second, that there wants wood to warm the royal seats. I acquaint your majesty, third, that the balustrade next the river, behind the church, is become ruinous. SCHMIDT,

Sacrist of the Cathedral.'

The king, who was much amused by the letter, returned the following answer:

'I acquaint you, M. Sacrist Schmidt, first, that those who want to sing, may buy books. Second, I acquaint M. Sacrist Schmidt, that those who want to be warm, must buy wood. Third, I acquaint M. Sacrist Schmidt, that I shall not trust any longer to the balustrade next the river. And I acquaint M. Sacrist Schmidt, fourth, that I will not have any more correspondence with him. FREDERICK.'

Læsæ Poeticæ.

A German poet having written a gastro-nomic song upon the pastry of one of the best pastrycooks at Nuremberg, the latter thought he could not better testify his gratitude, than by sending him one of the objects he had celebrated in his song. The poet was at first enchanted with the delicious repast; but, O Grief! on finishing the last morsel, he recognised in the paper on which it had been baked, the copy of the song with which he had testified his homage to the pastrycook. In a great rage he hastened to his shop, and charged him with the crime of *læsæ poeticæ*. 'Ah, sir!' replied the *artist*, not in the least disconcerted, 'why so angry? I have only followed your example. You made a song upon my pastry, and I have made a pie upon your song.'

Dr. Joseph Warton.

This elegant scholar was invited, while master of Winchester, to meet a relative of Pope, who, from her connexion with the family, he was taught to believe could furnish

him with much valuable and private information. On being introduced, incited by all that eagerness which so strongly characterised him, he took a seat immediately close to the lady, and by inquiring her consanguinity to Pope, entered at once on the subject; when the following dialogue took place: 'Pray, sir, did not you write a book about my cousin Pope?' 'Yes, madam.' 'They tell me 'twas vastly clever. He wrote a great many plays, did he not?' 'I have heard only of one attempt, madam.' 'Oh no; I beg your pardon, that was Mr. Shakspeare; I always confound them.' This was too much even for the doctor's gallantry; he replied, 'Certainly, madam;' and, with a bow, changed his seat to the contrary side of the room. In a few minutes he quitted the company, but not without taking leave of the lady in the most polite and unaffected manner.

Criticism.

A journeyman hatter, a companion of Dr. Franklin, on commencing business for himself, was anxious to get a handsome sign-board, with a proper inscription. This he composed himself, as follows: 'John Thompson, *hatter, makes and sells hats for ready money*;' with the figure of a hat subjoined. But he thought he would submit it to his friends for their amendments. The first he showed it to, thought the word *hatter* tautologous, because followed by the words, 'makes hats,' which showed he was a hatter. It was struck out. The next observed, that the word 'makes' might as well be omitted, because his customers would not care who made the hats; if good, and to their mind, they would buy, by whomsoever made. He struck that out also. A third said, he thought the words 'for ready money' were useless, as it was not the custom of the place to sell on credit; everyone who purchased, expected to pay. These too were parted with, and the inscription then stood, 'John Thompson sells hats.' 'Sells hats!' says his next friend; why, who expects you to give them away? What, then, is the use of the word? It was struck out, and *hats* was all that remained attached to the name of John Thompson. Even his inscription, brief as it was, was reduced ultimately to 'John Thompson,' with the figure of a hat subjoined.

Dr. Hough.

The late Bishop of Worcester, Dr. Hough, as remarkable for sweetness of temper, as well as every other Christian virtue; of which the following story affords a proof. A young gentleman, whose family had been well acquainted with the bishop, in making the tour of England before he went abroad, called to pay his respects to his lordship as he passed by his seat in the country. It happened to be dinner time, and the room full of company. The bishop, however, received him with much

familiarity; but the servant, in reaching him a chair, threw down a curious weather-glass that had cost twenty guineas, and broke it. The gentleman was under infinite concern, and began to make an apology for being himself the occasion of the accident; when the bishop with great good nature interrupted him. 'Be under no concern, sir,' said his lordship, smiling, 'for I am much beholden to you for it. We have had a very dry season; and now I hope we shall have rain. I never saw the glass so *low* in my life.' Everyone was pleased with the humour and pleasantry of the turn; and the more so, as his lordship was then more than eighty, a time of life when the infirmities of old age make most men peevish and hasty.

Fortune Teller.

A fortune teller was arrested at his theatre of divination, *al fresco*, at the corner of the Rue de Bussy, in Paris, and carried before the tribunal of correctional police. 'You know to read the future?' said the president, a man of great wit, but too fond of a joke for a magistrate. 'I do, M. le President,' replied the sorcerer. 'In this case,' said the judge, 'you know the judgment we intend to pronounce.' 'Certainly.' 'Well, what will happen to you?' 'Nothing.' 'You are sure of it?' 'You will acquit me.' 'Acquit you!' 'There is no doubt of it.' 'Why?' 'Because, sir, if it had been your intention to condemn me, you would not have added irony to misfortune.' The president, disconcerted, turned to his brother judges, and the sorcerer was acquitted.

Complimenting.

A fashionable female at Paris having heard that Nicole, the celebrated mathematician, was much cherished in all the circles of science, and anxious to be thought the patroness of merit, sent him such an invitation to one of her parties, that he could not refuse it. The abstract geometrician, who had never before been present at an assembly of the kind, received the civilities of his fair hostess with all the awkwardness and confusion of a man unacquainted with the frivolities of fashionable life. After passing a very uncomfortable evening, in answering the observations of those who addressed him, he prepared to take his leave. Wishing to be very complimentary, he declared to the lady of the house the grateful sense he entertained of the high honour she had conferred on him by her generous invitation, polite regard, and extraordinary civility. At length he reached the climax of his compliments, by assuring her 'that her lovely *little* eyes had made an impression which could never be erased from his breast.' Nicole then retired, quite satisfied at the manner in which he had acquitted himself; but a friend who was accompanying him home, whispered in his ear as they were

passing to the staircase, that he had paid the lady a very ill compliment, by telling her that her eyes were little, for that little eyes were universally understood by the whole sex to be a great defect. Nicole, mortified to excess at the mistake he had thus unconsciously made, and resolving to apologize to the lady whom he conceived he must have offended, returned abruptly to the company, and entreated her with great humility to pardon the error into which his confusion had betrayed him, of imputing anything like *littleness* to so high, so elegant, so distinguished a character; and concluded by saying, 'Madam, I never beheld such fine *large* eyes, such fine *large* lips, such fine *large* hands, or so fine and *large* a person altogether, in the whole course of my life.'

Genuine Laziness.

A young farmer inspecting his father's concerns in the time of hay harvest, found a body of the mowers asleep, when they should have been at work. 'What is this?' cried the youth; 'Why, you are so indolent, that I would give a crown to know which is the most lazy of you.' 'I am he,' cried the one nearest to him, still stretching himself at his ease. 'Here, then,' said the youth, holding out the money. 'Oh, Master George,' said the fellow, folding his arms, 'do pray take the trouble of putting it into my pocket for me.'

Hoax.

In December, 1783, when the air-balloons were the object of public attention, there appeared in the *Journal de Paris* a letter from a watchmaker, who, without subscribing his name, offered to traverse the river Seine, between the Pont Neuf and the Pont Royal, so quickly, that a fast-trotting horse, which was to set off at the same time, should not reach the opposite extremity before him. To make this experiment, he asked for his reward two hundred louis, when he reached the appointed spot; and which were merely to pay his travelling expenses to, and lost time at, Paris. He appointed the first of January, if the river was not frozen, for the experiment. The town was immediately agitated; subscriptions filled rapidly, and at the court and the city the only subject of conversation was the watchmaker, who was able to walk on the water faster than a horse could trot. As some, however, appeared to doubt its practicability, he satisfied the inquirers by describing his apparatus. These consisted of a pair of elastic wooden shoes, joined by a thick bar. Each *sabot*, or shoe, was to be one foot long and seven inches high, on an equal breadth; and, if necessary, he was to hold in each hand a bladder fully blown. He assured the public, he could repeat the miracle fifty times in an hour. The city of Paris began to erect scaffolds for the convenience of the subscribers; but before the appointed time the hoaxer, M. Combles, confessed that he had done this only to try the

credulity of the Parisians. The humourist, however, had nearly endangered his liberty by the joke; for he had not only imposed on several distinguished persons, but a society at Versailles had subscribed a thousand livres, and which society was formed by Monsieur (Louis XVIII.), who was too grave a prince to suffer with impunity any personal ridicules. M. Combles applied to the lieutenant of the police, who solicited his majesty's pardon. The king laughed, and amused himself at the expense of monsieur and the court; and it was thought best to conclude this affair by informing the public, that the watchmaker was insane, and that he was neither desirous nor capable of performing his engagement.

Leo X. and his Buffoon.

Querno, a kind of poetical buffoon, much in favour with Leo X., had been crowned arch-poet by the gay young men of fashion at the court of Rome. The Pope, fond of his burlesque talents, sent him choice dishes from his own table, but expected always a distich in return. Querno, like other bon-vivants, was tortured by the gout, and at one of its most powerful moments, he was obliged to write in gratitude for a dainty, and sent the following:—

'Archipoeta facit versus, pro mille poetis.'

To which the good-humoured Leo added,

'Et pro mille aliis, archipoeta bibit.'

Then Querno, resolving to show himself superior to his sufferings, wrote—

Porrige, quod faciat mihi, carmina docta
Falernum.'

But the Pope as smartly replied—

'Hoc vinum enervat debilitatque pedes.'

This sarcastic intercourse may be thus translated:—

Querno. For millions of poets the arch-poet composes.

Leo. By millions of bumpers bepimpled his nose is.

Querno. A bowl of Falernian t'enliven my strain.

Leo. You'll lose in your *feet* what in *measure* you gain.

Remedy against Lying.

A Chinese silversmith, to whom the English gave the name of Tom Workwell, brought home some *silver spoons*, as he called them, to a captain of a ship, who had ordered them. The gentleman suspecting that his friend Tom had played him a trick, common in China, of adding no small quantity of tutenague to the usual proportion of alloy, taxed him with the cheat, which he denied with the strongest asseverations of his innocence. The captain then told him, that he had brought with him a famous water, called *lie-water*, which being placed on the tongue of a person suspected of telling an untruth, if the case were so, burned

a hole in it; if otherwise, the party escaped with honour, and unhurt. Tom thinking it a trick, readily consented; upon which, with much form, a single drop of aquafortis was put upon his tongue; he instantly jumped about the room in violent pain, crying out, 'Very true, half tutenague, half tutenague,' in hopes that confessing the fact, might stop the progress of the *lie-water*, which, from the pain he felt, he had some reason to think possessed the quality ascribed to it. Several Europeans, who were present, and who had bought different pieces of plate from him, now put similar questions to him; and he confessed that it had been his uniform and constant practice, to add a very large quantity of tutenague to every article made at his shop, for which, during the continuance of the pain, he promised ample reparation.

Neat Reproof.

Louis XV. frequently talked to his courtiers in a manner extremely disagreeable to them, without intending to give them pain. One day, when Cardinal de Luynes was paying his respects to him, 'Cardinal,' said the king to him, 'your great-grandfather died of an apoplexy; your father and your uncle died of an apoplexy; and you look as if you would die of an apoplectic stroke.' 'Sire,' answered the cardinal, 'fortunately for us, we do not live in the times when kings are prophets.'

At Fault.

The Duke of Grafton being fox-hunting one day near Newmarket, a Quaker, at some distance upon an eminence, pulled off his hat, and gave a 'Yoicks, tally-ho!' The hounds immediately ran to him, and being drawn off the scent, were consequently at fault, which enraged the duke, that galloping up to the fender, he asked him, in an angry tone, 'Art thou a Quaker?' 'I am, friend,' replied the man. 'Well, then,' rejoined his grace, 'as you never pull off your hat to a Christian, will I thank you in future not to pay that compliment to a fox!'

Coeffeurs v. Perruquiers.

The national frivolity of the French was perhaps never more strikingly exemplified than in the lawsuit between the different classes of hairdressers in Paris, which was fought before the highest court of judicature in January, 1769. This cause was of a most extraordinary nature, and the prevailing topic of conversation. The statement of it was bought with great avidity, and was at once to be found on the dusty desks of the lawyers, and the brilliant toilettes of the ladies. It was intitled, 'For the *coeffeurs des dames* of Paris, against the corporation of master barbers and hairdressers.'

The master barbers and hairdressers main-

tained that it was part of their corporate privilege to dress the ladies; and they had actually several of their adversaries imprisoned and fined, for an encroachment on their pretended monopoly. The *coeffeurs des dames* in their turn defended themselves, and contended that the exclusive privilege was in their favour; because, first, the art of dressing ladies' hair is a *liberal art*, and foreign to the profession of the *maîtres perruquiers*; secondly, the statute of the *perruquiers* does not give them the pretended exclusive right; and, thirdly, the corporation had hitherto oppressed them, and were indebted to them in considerable damages and interests.

It is probable that some able pleader amused himself in drawing up this memoir; since the frivolous cause was conducted with art and elegance, and everywhere discovered the playful hand of a master, who, perhaps, thus unbent himself in the midst of more painful avocations. In his first division, the orator, who makes his clients speak in their own persons, maintains that the art of dressing the ladies' hair is a liberal art, and compares it to those of the poet, the painter, and the statuary.

'By those talents,' say they, 'which are peculiar to ourselves, we give new graces to the beauty sung by the poet; it is when she comes from under our hands that the painter and the statuary represent her; and if the locks of Berenice have been placed among the stars, who will deny that to attain this superior glory she was first in want of our aid?'

A forehead more or less open, a face more or less oval, require very different modes; everywhere we must embellish Nature, or correct her deficiencies. It is also necessary to conciliate with the colour of the flesh, that of the dress which is to beautify it. This is the art of the painter; we must seize with taste the variegated shades; we must employ the *chiaro scuro*, and the distribution of the shadows, to give more spirit to the complexion, and more expression to the graces. Sometimes the whiteness of the skin will be heightened by the auburn tint of the locks; and the too lively splendour of the fair will be softened by the greyish cast with which we tinge the tresses.

In another place, to prove that their art has claims to genius, the *coeffeurs des dames* add,

'If the arrangement of the hair, and the various colours we give the locks, do not answer our intention, we have under our hands the brilliant treasures of Golconda. To us belongs the happy disposition of the diamonds; the placing the pearl pins, and the suspending of the feathers. The general of an army knows what reliance he can make on a *half moon* (a term of the then fashionable dress), placed in front; he has his engineers, who are distinguished by their titles; and we, with a sparkling cross advantageously placed, know how difficult it is for an enemy not to yield. It is we, indeed, who strengthen and extend the empire of beauty.'

Several legal discussions now follow, the aridity of which do not permit our gay pleader

to take his happy flights : but he appears with all his felicity of imagination in the peroration. After having informed us that there exist above twelve hundred *coiffeurs des dames* in Paris, he thus closes his oration :—

'Some rigid censurers will perhaps say that they could do very well without us ; and that if there were less art and ornament at the toilettes of the ladies, things would be all for the better. It is not for us to judge whether the manners of Sparta were preferable to those of Athens ; or whether the shepherdess, who gazes on herself in the glassy fountain, interweaves some flowers in her tresses, and adorns herself with natural graces, merits a greater homage than those brilliant citizens who skilfully employ the refinements of a fashionable dress. We must take the age in the state in which we find it. We feel a congenial disposition to the living manners, to which we owe our existence, and while they subsist, we must subsist with them.'

Shortly afterwards the case in favour of the *coiffeurs* was ordered to be suppressed, as unworthy of the majesty of the tribunal to which the suit was brought. The *coiffeurs*, however, gained their cause against the perruquiers, and the graces triumphed over the monster of chicanery. The ladies had taken a warm interest in their favour, and formed for them most powerful solicitations. This *important* trial was crowded by a most brilliant assemblage, and when the grave decision of the court was finally made, it was approved by loud cheering from the anxious beauties of Paris, who considered the affair of their *coiffeurs* as of the most national consequence.

Speculation and Experience.

Lord Kaimes, whose 'Gentleman Farmer' has made his love of agricultural pursuits very well known, had, like many other zealous improvers, a considerable share of credulity as to all new schemes and inventions. A projector having once imposed upon him with a receipt for a sort of manure, which was to make wonderfully prolific crops, his lordship took an opportunity of expatiating to one of his farmers on its mighty advantages. 'Aye, Donald,' said his lordship, 'enough for a whole farm may be carried in your coat pocket.' 'Ha ! ha !' replied the farmer, 'but when you do that, my lord, you will ha'e to carry the crop in your waistcoat pocket.'

Provoking Mistake Revenged.

Count Stackelberg was once sent on a particular embassy by the Empress Catherine of Russia, into Poland ; on the same occasion, Thurgut was dispatched by the Emperor of Germany. Both these ambassadors were strangers to each other. When the morning appointed for an audience arrived, Thurgut was ushered into a magnificent saloon, where, seeing a dignified-looking man seated, and attended by several Polish noblemen, who

were standing most respectfully before him, the German ambassador (Thurgut) concluded it was the king, and addressed him as such, with the accustomed formalities. This dignified-looking character turned out to be Stackelberg, who received the unexpected homage with pride and silence. Soon after, the king entered the presence chamber, and Thurgut, perceiving his mistake, retired much mortified and ashamed. In the evening it so happened, that both these ambassadors were playing cards at the same table with his majesty. The German envoy threw down a card, saying, 'The king of clubs.' 'A mistake!' said the monarch, 'it is the knave !' 'Pardon me, sire,' exclaimed Thurgut, casting a significant glance at Stackelberg, 'this is the second time to-day I have mistaken a knave for a king.' Stackelberg, though very prompt at a repartee, bit his lips, and was silent.

Boswell, and Colman the Elder.

At a public dinner given at the Mansion House, during the mayoralty of Mr. Wilkes, Mr. James Boswell, who had taken care to secure good room, seeing George Colman the elder in want of a place, called to him and gave him one beside himself, saying, 'See what it is to have a Scotchman for your friend at Mr. Wilkes's table.' A little time after, there came a foreign waiter with something ; Mr. Boswell talked to him in German, upon which Mr. Colman wittily observed, 'I have certainly mistaken the place to-day ; I thought I was at the Mansion House, but I must surely be at St. James's, for here are nothing but Germans and Scots !'

Catching the Small-pox.

When Dr. Thomas, afterwards Bishop of Salisbury, was chaplain to the British factory at Hamburg, a gentleman belonging to the factory died at a village about ten miles distant. Application was made to the clergyman of the parish, for leave to bury him in the church-yard. The parson inquired of what religion he was ; and was told that he had died a Calvinist. 'Then,' said he, 'he cannot be buried here ; there are none but Lutherans in my church-yard, and there shall be no other.' On this being told to Dr. Thomas, he immediately took his horse, and went to argue the matter with the parson, but found him inflexible. At length the doctor gained, by ridicule, what he had failed to accomplish by the force of reason. 'You remind me,' says the doctor to the intolerant priest, 'of a circumstance which once happened to myself, when I was curate of a church in Thames Street ; I was burying a corpse, when a woman came and pulled me by the sleeve in the middle of the service. 'Sir, sir, I want to speak to you.' 'Pr'ythee,' says I, 'wait till I have done !' 'No, sir, I must speak to you immediately !' 'Why, then, what is the matter ?' 'Why, sir,' says she, 'you are

burying a man who died of the small-pox next my poor husband, who never had it.' This story had the desired effect; and the curate permitted the bones of the poor Calvinist to be laid in a Lutheran church-yard.

Fighting Preacher.

In the period of the Commonwealth in England a young officer who had been bred in France, went one day to the ordinary at the Black Horse, in Holborn, where the person that usually presided at table was a rough old-fashioned gentleman, who, according to the custom of those times, had been both major and preacher of a regiment. The young officer began to ridicule religion, and to speak against the dispensations of Providence. The major at first only desired him to speak more respectfully of religion, but finding him run on, began to reprimand him in a more serious manner. The young fellow, who had thought to turn matters to a jest, asked the major if he was going to preach; at the same time, bidding him take care what he said against a man of honour. 'A man of honour!' cried the major, 'thou art an infidel and a braggart; and I will treat thee as such.' The quarrel at length ran so high, that the young officer challenged the major. On their going into the garden to settle the dispute, the old gentleman advised his antagonist to consider the place to which one pass might drive him; but finding him grow scurrilous, Sirrah,' said he, 'if a thunderbolt does not strike thee before I come at thee, I shall not fail to chastise thee for thy profaneness to thy Maker, and thy insolence to myself.' This said, he drew out his sword, and with a loud voice exclaimed, 'The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!' This terrified the young gentleman so much, that he was instantly disarmed and thrown on his knees, in which posture he begged for his life, and made the necessary apology.

Flattery.

Louis XIV. gave flatterers good pretexts, which they were not slow to avail themselves. A Capuchin preaching before this monarch at Fontainebleau, began his discourse with, 'My brethren, *we shall all die!*' Then stopping short, and turning to the king, 'Yes, *er, almost all of us shall die!*'

Roddam's Trial.

When Captain, afterwards Admiral, Roddam was tried by a court-martial for the capture of a ship, he gave directions to the printer Kingston to publish the minutes, and give copies to each member of the court-martial, to his brother officers, and some other friends, and then to sell the remainder. It was some time afterwards that he again saw his publisher; when in order to settle accounts the book was referred to, and the man stated,

that according to order, so many copies had been disposed of. 'Why, that is the number I ordered you to give away in my name; how many have you sold?' 'Not one,' was the reply, 'though I advertised in all the papers.' 'That is strange!' said Captain Roddam, 'for Admiral Byng's trial went through three editions in a week.' 'That is a different case,' said the printer; 'if you had been condemned to be shot, your trial would have sold as well; but the public take no interest in an honourable acquittal.'

Art of Rising.

The Duke of Grammont was the most adroit and witty courtier of his day. He entered one day the closet of Cardinal Mazarin without being announced. His eminence was amusing himself, by jumping against the wall. To surprise a Prime Minister in so boyish an occupation, was dangerous; a less skilful courtier might have stammered excuses, and retired. The duke entered briskly, and cried, 'I'll bet you one hundred crowns, that I jump higher than your eminence;' and the duke and cardinal began to jump for their lives. Grammont took care to jump a few inches lower than the cardinal, and was, six months afterwards, Marshal of France.

Bacchanalians.

A publican blowing the froth from a pot of porter which he was bringing to a customer, the gentleman struck him. Boniface eagerly asked why he struck him? 'Why,' replied the gentleman, 'I only returned blow for blow.'

At the breaking up of a tavern dinner party, two of the company fell down stairs, the one tumbling to the first landing place, the other rolling to the bottom. It was observed that the first seemed *dead drunk*. 'Yes,' said a wag, 'but he's not so *far gone* as the gentleman below.'

Passion for Gaming Cured.

Mr. Smeaton, the celebrated engineer, early in life attracted the notice of the Duke and Duchess of Queensbury, from a strong resemblance which he bore to their favourite, Gay, the poet; and a friendship was formed between them, which was as cordial as uninterrupted. Smeaton, who detested cards, was on one occasion, from a spirit of complaisance but too common, drawn in to join the duke and duchess, and a numerous party, in a game at Pope Joan; but his attention never following the game, he played like a boy. The run of the game was high, and the stake in 'Pope' had accidentally accumulated to a sum more than serious. It came to Smeaton's turn, by the deal, to double it; when regardless of his cards, he busily made minutes on a

scrap of paper, and put it on the board. The duchess eagerly asked him what it was ; and he as coolly replied, ' Your grace will recollect that the field in which my house stands may be about five acres, 3 roods, and 7 perches, which at thirty years' purchase will be just my stake ; and if your grace will make a duke of me, I presume the winner will not dislike my mortgage.'

The joke and the lesson had alike their weight ; the duke and duchess would never after play but for the merest trifle.

Welsh River.

Dr. Johnson, whose ideas of anything not positively large were always mingled with contempt, when in North Wales, inquired respecting a rapid current—' Has this brook e'er a name?' and received for answer, ' Why, dear sir, this is the River Ustrad.' ' The River Ustrad!' said Johnson, turning to his friend, ' let us jump over it directly, and show how an Englishman ought to treat a *Welsh river*.'

To be Let Alone.

Every one has heard the story of a man who, when looking at a house, asked the servant, a pretty girl, if she was to be let with the house. ' No, sir,' she replied, ' if you please, I am to be *let alone*.' The origin of this witticism is not so well known, and it will surprise most readers to learn that it is to be found in the works of a very pious writer, who was born in the year 1592, namely, Francis Quarles, who has the following quaint epigram:—

ON THE WORLD.

This house is to be let for life or years ;
Her rent is sorrow, and her income tears ;
Cupid's has stood long void, her bills made known,
She must be dearly let, or *let alone*.

Earl of Peterborough.

About the time of the Revolution, when the celebrated Earl of Peterborough was a young man, he entertained a passion for a lady who was fond of birds. She had seen and heard a fine canary bird at a coffee-house near Charing Cross, and entreated his lordship to procure it for her. The owner was a widow, and not in very affluent circumstances ; but though Lord Peterborough offered a large sum for the bird, she would not part with it. Finding that there was no other way of coming at the bird, his lordship determined to change it, and getting one of the same colour, and with nearly the same marks, he went to the coffee-house. The mistress usually sat in a room behind the bar, to which his lordship had easy access ; and, contriving to send her out of the way, he effected his purpose undiscovered. On the lady's return, he took his leave.

His lordship continued to frequent the house

to avoid suspicion, but forebore saying anything of the bird till about two years after, when, taking occasion to speak of it, he said to the lady, ' I wanted to buy that bird, but you refused my money ; I dare say you are by this time sorry for it.' ' Indeed, my lord,' replied she, ' I am not, nor would I take any sum for him ; for, would you believe it? ever since the time that our good king (James II.) was forced to go abroad and leave us, the dear creature has not sung a single note !'

All is Vanity.

Lord Burleigh, treasurer to Queen Elizabeth, having heard much of the curiosities possessed by a gentleman in Suffolk, went to pay him a visit, and was presented with a sight of a vast variety of precious gems, medals, pictures, statues, &c. ; every room, moreover, was adorned with mottoes and devices. At length the gentleman took the treasurer into a room, where he promised to show him an article of infinite value, on account of its antiquity, but which was nothing else than an old weather-beaten statue of some ancient philosopher, which had been palmed on the ignorant connoisseur for the statue of Solomon, carved during the lifetime of that king, with his own motto cut out in the following manner:—

OMNIA VANITAS.

Lord Burleigh observing the very different characters in which these words were engraved, said, in a sly manner, ' This does not look well ; I would advise you to alter it at any rate ; for methinks *omnia* is very little, and *vanitas* exceeding great.' ' My lord,' says the gentleman, not observing the satire, ' it shall be done, for to speak the truth, *vanitas* hath been thus here a long time, and I crowded in *omnia* ; but I will make them all one before your lordship comes again.'

Half Lengths.

The celebrated German bard, Gleim, once got a painter to paint his own portrait, and that of his friend the poet Jacobi. Happening to dine about this time at a friend's house, a nobleman in company, who was the friend of both, said to Gleim, ' I hear you and Jacobi have had your portraits painted ; I suppose at full length?' ' No,' replied Gleim, ' that is only for knights, that we may see their *spurs*. We have no occasion for this ; for with us *the head is the chief thing*.'

Bel and the Dragon.

There was at a public institution a matron of the name of Bel, and another whose severity and general manners obtained her the appellation of the Dragon. One day a violent squabble was heard in a room adjoining to that in which the directors of the charity were then assembled, and one of them was induced

put his head out to see what was the cause of the uproar. He did so, and instantly returned to his seat. 'Did you inquire what all that noise was about?' said one of the gentlemen. 'Yes,' answered the other, 'and there may be a little more yet; but you must not be alarmed, it is only *Bel and the Dragon*.'

Existence of Matter.

As Berkeley, the celebrated author of the immaterial Theory, who was one morning sitting in the cloisters of Dublin college, an acquaintance came up to him, and seeing him apt in contemplation, hit him a smart rap on the shoulder with his cane. The dean starting, called out, 'What's the matter?' His acquaintance looking him steadily in the face, replied, 'No matter, Berkeley.'

'Whereas'—

A barrister observing the Lord Chancellor, whom he wished to address, very much engaged with the *Gazette*, said, 'I beg your lordship's pardon; I see you are busy with your harvest.'

A Take In.

In the reign of King William, Oliver Cromwell, grandson of the Protector, found it necessary on some occasion or other to present a petition to Parliament. He gave his petition to a friend, a member, who took it to the House of Commons to present it. Just as the gentleman was entering the house with the petition in his hand, Sir Edward Seymour, famous old royalist member, was also going.

On the sight of Sir Edward, the gentleman immediately conceived the idea of making surly, sour old Tory carry up the petition to Oliver Cromwell. 'Sir Edward,' said he, 'tapping him on the instant, will you do me a favour? I this moment recollect that I am to immediately attend a trial at Westminster Hall, which may detain me too late to give in this petition this morning, as I intended to do. 'Tis a mere matter of form; you be so good as to carry it up for me?' 'Give it me,' said Sir Edward. The petition he put directly into his pocket, and he into the case. When a proper opportunity occurred for presenting it, Sir Edward rose, and put his spectacles on, began to read, 'The humble petition of-of-of-of the d——! Oliver Cromwell!!' The roar of laughter in the hall, at seeing the old knight so fairly taken was too great for him to stand. Dashing the petition from him in great rage, he rushed out of the house.

Longs and Shorts.

There were two barristers at the Irish bar, who formed a singular contrast in their appearance—Ninian Mahaffy, Esq., was as much

above the middle size, as Mr. Collis was below it. When Lord Redesdale was Lord Chancellor of Ireland, these two gentlemen chanced to be retained in the same cause, a short time after his lordship's elevation, and before he was personally acquainted with the Irish bar. Mr. Collis was opening the motion, when the lord chancellor observed, 'Mr. Collis, when a barrister addresses the court, he must stand.' 'I am standing on the bench, my lord,' said Collis. 'I beg a thousand pardons,' said his lordship, somewhat confused. 'Sit down, Mr. Mahaffy.' 'I am sitting, my lord,' was the reply to the confounded chancellor.

A barrister who was present on this occasion, made it the subject of the following epigram:—

Mahaffy and Collis, ill-paired in a case,
Representatives true of the rattling size
and age;

To the heights of the law, though I hope
you will rise,

You will never be judges I'm sure of
a(s)ize.

The Scotch bar had once to boast in Mr. Erskine, of Cardross, of a pleader quite as diminutive as Mr. Collis. He had usually a stool brought to him to stand upon when addressing the court, which gave occasion for a witty rival once to observe, that 'that was one way of rising at the bar.'

The Woolsack.

Colman and Banister dining one day with Lord Erskine, the ex-chancellor, amongst other things, observed that he had then about three thousand head of sheep. 'I perceive,' interrupted Colman, 'your lordship has still an eye to the woolsack.'

The Better Half.

A Bedouin Arab having blasphemed the name, the beard, and the honour of his chief, was about to receive the bastinado for his insolence. Already the wretch, extended on the sand, contemplated the dreadful preparations for his punishment; when perceiving his wife running towards them, he placed himself under her protection by the accustomed formula; to which she did not fail to reply in the usual way. 'But,' said the scheik, 'thy husband has committed an offence which does not admit of pardon.' 'Oh! great prince, the blasphemy is horrible, I confess, and merits exemplary punishment; but it is not my whole husband who has thus rendered himself guilty towards thee.' 'What?' replied the prince, 'how is it not thy whole husband?' 'No,' continued the woman, 'it is but the half of him that has committed the insult: for am not I the other half—I who never offended thee? Now the guilty half places itself under the protection

of the innocent half, and the latter cannot suffer the former to be punished.'

The anger of the prince was disarmed by this witty reply, and the offending husband was pardoned.

Cure for an Idle Complaint.

'Be easy,' said a rich invalid to his son-in-law, who was every hour perplexing him with complaints of his wife's misbehaviour--'Be easy, I say; as her behaviour is so very blameable, I will alter my will, and cut her off with a shilling.' The old man heard no more of his daughter's failings.

Gentlemen Farmers.

Lord Erskine was once riding in company with Mr. Coke, through that garden of English agriculture, the county of Norfolk, when coming opposite to a finely cultivated field, his lordship jumped up, and exclaimed in ecstasy, 'What a beautiful piece of *lavender*!' It happened to be a field of *wheat*. The mistake, doubtless, arose from his lordship never having before seen wheat under the new system of drill husbandry.

Such a mistake in one whose claims to immortality rest on something superior to a knowledge of wheat and lavender, may be excused; but what shall be said, for no less a personage than a late President of the Board of Agriculture itself, making a blunder still worse? General Fitzroy is fond of relating, that the first time Sir John Sinclair came upon the general's farm, he was showing Sir John a field of young *barley*, when the worthy baronet exclaimed, 'You are very backward in that *wheat* crop!' 'Good heavens!' said the general, 'can this be the President of the Board of Agriculture?'

Another equally distinguished agriculturist, whose enthusiasm for rural pursuits has always been more than a match for any skill he possesses in them, was once betrayed into a mistake of a still more ludicrous description. It was at the time when the merits of the Merino breed of sheep divided the suffrages of the wool-growers of England. The gentleman alluded to, who was an advocate for the superiority of the Spanish fleece, brought in his pocket to a meeting of fleece amateurs, a sample of Merino wool grown under an English sun, with the intention of making an eloquent speech in praise of the foreign breed; and then, by way of proof, exhibiting this sample, to the utter confusion of the partisans of the black faces and Southdowns. A friend of the Southdowns got a hint of the gentleman's design; and being as much of a wag as a wool grower, he hit upon a very amusing expedient of putting the *real* knowledge of the Merino advocate to the test. Previous to the meeting, he contrived to abstract from the sample of wool in the gentleman's pocket a good handful, which he silently transferred into his own. When the

party were all assembled, the gentleman made his speech in favour of the Merino fabric—a very confident and a very warm one—and concluded with drawing forth the sample of the wool itself, saying, 'But, gentlemen, I don't want you to take my word on the subject; here is a specimen of the wool itself. Only look at it, and be convinced. Was there ever so fine a wool seen?' The sample being handed round, the sly purloiner now begged to put in a word for his own Southdowns. 'He was,' he said, 'no speechifyer, but a plain matter of fact man; the Merino wool might be all that they were told; but he had a handful of wool in his pocket, which he had shorn that morning from the back of a Southdown wedder, which he thought quite as fine, and he would appeal to the judgment of the company if it was not.' On this, he exhibited the stolen handful of Merino, as genuine Southdown. Most of the company were of opinion, that it was every whit as good as the Merino; but the Merino grower himself seizing it, eagerly exclaimed, 'that he could not sufficiently express his surprise, that gentlemen with their eyes open should talk so; the difference between the two wools was as obvious as the difference between black and white.' He went on with great vivacity in the same strain, till the witty hoaxer stopped him by letting out the secret, to the great amusement of the company, and the inexpressible confusion of this nice discriminator of rare products.

Learned Librarian.

M. Bantru, a distinguished member of the French Academy in the seventeenth century, travelling in Spain, was presented to the king, Philip III., who asked him if he had seen the Escorial? Bantru answered in the affirmative. 'Well, and what do you think of the library?' 'I think, sire, that you should make your librarian Minister of Finances,' answered Bantru. 'Why?' asked the king. 'Because he has never touched anything entrusted to his care.'

An Expensive Job.

A gentleman passing a country church while under repair, observed to one of the workmen, that he thought it would be an expensive job. 'Why, yes,' replied he; 'but in my opinion we shall accomplish what our reverend divine has endeavoured to do, for the last thirty years, in vain.' 'What is that?' said the gentleman. 'Why, bring all the parish to repentance.'

Puffing.

The following advertisement from Liston, the comic actor, appeared in the newspapers in June, 1817, on the approach of his benefit. It is an admirable satire on modern puffing:

'*Mr. Liston to the Editor.*—Sir, my benefit

kes place this evening, at Covent Garden heatre, and I doubt not will be splendidly tended. Several parties in the first circle of shion were made, the moment it was announced. I shall perform Fogrum in *The lase*, and Leporello in *The Libertine*; and the delineations of those arduous characters, shall display much feeling and discrimination, together with great taste in my esses, and elegance in my manner. The dience will be delighted with my exertions, d testify by rapturous applause, their most cided approbation.

'When we consider, in addition to my pro-sional merits, the *loveliness of my person*, d *fascinations of my face*, which are only ualled by the amiability of my private aracter, having never "pinched my children, r kicked my wife out of bed," there is no ubt but this PUFF will not be inserted in in.

'I am, sir, your obedient servant,
'June 10, 1817. J. LISTON.'

Knowledge of the World.

Lord Anson, the circumnavigator of the be, suffered much by gaining. The treasure the Spanish galleons became the prize of me sharpers at Bath; on which occasion it is observed, 'That Lord Anson had been and the world, and over the world, but ver in the world.'

Insurance.

The collector in a country church, where a ef was read for a sufferer from fire, flattered self that he had been unusually success-in the collection, as he fancied he saw an ent to one of the fire offices put a note into box. On examining the contents, how-r, he found that the note had not issued m any bank, but merely bore these ad-mitory words, 'Let them INSURE, as they h to be saved.'

Clever Thief.

At the encampment of a body of the British ps, in the Province of Bojepore in the st Indies, one of the officers had a horse en; but the thief missing the road before got out of sight of the tents, was detected, l brought back. The gentleman, highly ased at recovering the horse, and much rised at the dexterity of the fellow, who ed him off from the midst of six or seven oms, was more inclined to admire his ad-ss and expertness, than to punish him. t morning his resentment having cntirely sided, he yielded to his curiosity. He ered the fellow to be brought before him, inquired by what contrivance he had cted his purpose? The fellow replied, could not well tell his honour, but if he sed he would show him.' 'Well then,' s the officer, 'since you are so bad at de-

scription, we'll see how you did it.' 'Now, sir,' says the artful culprit, 'pray take notice, this is the way I crawled over the grooms. The next thing was to loosen the ropes behind, which I did thus. I then clapped a halter, observe, sir, if you please, over the neck, thus.' 'Admirably clever!' exclaimed the officer, rubbing his hands. 'In this manner, continued the fellow, 'I jumped upon his back, and when once I am mounted, I give any one leave to catch me if he can.' On this he gave the horse a smart blow, pushed him through the gaping crowd, put him to his full speed, and carried him clear off, to the no small mortification of the astonished owner.

Pride of Ancestry.

Sir Toby Butler, the famous Irish barrister, once invited Sir Charles Cole to dinner; he knew that his guest valued himself on a long line of ancestry, in which Sir Toby could have rivalled him, if he had not prided himself on his own merit. At dinner, Sir Toby used to cry out, 'Tell my cousin Pat, the butler.' 'Tell my cousin Corah, the cook.' 'Tell my cousin Terry, the groom, so and so.' 'What!' said Sir Charles, in a degree of surprise, 'I find that all your servants are your relations.' 'To be surc they are,' said the knight, 'and is it not more praiseworthy to retain my own relations for servants, than to keep yours.'

A Bad Bargain.

A Persian who kept a parrot, taught it his own language. The parrot, in answer to every question, would say, '*Dur een chék shuck*,' or, 'What doubt is there of that?' One day the man carried the parrot to market for sale, and fixed the price at one hundred rupees. A Mogul asked the parrot, 'Are you worth a hundred rupees?' it answered, 'What doubt is there of that?' The Mogul was delighted, bought the parrot, and carried it home. Whatever he said, he received for answer, 'What doubt is there of that?' He then began to repent of his bargain, and said, 'What a fool I was to buy this bird!' The parrot said, 'What doubt is there of that?' The Mogul smiled, and gave the bird its liberty.

A Subject.

A singular circumstance once occurred at Mr. Brooks's, a surgeon, in Blenheim Street, Oxford Street. A coach drew up to the door, where subjects for dissection are received, and a body in a sack was deposited on the top of the stairs leading to the dissection room. The coachman and assistants made their bow as usual upon such occasions, and left the subject. Mr. Brooks happened to be present, and he asked one of his men why he did not tumble the body down stairs? The man, in

compliance with his master's mandate, began to perform his work, by taking hold of the end of the sack, but he had not got it down many steps, before a living subject threw his naked arms and shoulders out, and begged for his life. A scene of confusion followed, easier conceived than described. Mr. Brooks stood over the subject with a brace of loaded pistols, whilst his attendants flew for an officer. Prompt assistance was had, and the fellow, in a complete state of nudity, was imploring mercy with the engines of destruction at his head, when that assistance arrived. The account he gave of himself was, that he had come from Teddington that day, but that he had got so drunk he did not know how he came there. He said he had no recollection of the person or persons who brought him there, or where he had been. Mr. Brooks observed, that men run for wagers in sacks, and at his suggestion the sack was tied round his chin, and a hole being cut through the bottom for his feet, he was conveyed away by a constable to the watch-house in a coach.

Association of Ideas.

'Opinion and belief,' says Lord Kaimes, 'are influenced by affection and propensity.' The story of a lady and a curate viewing the moon through a telescope, is a pleasant illustration. 'I perceive,' says the lady, 'two shadows inclining to each other—they are certainly two happy *lovers*.' 'Not at all,' replies the curate; 'they are two *steeple*s of a cathedral.'

Sir Thomas Coulson.

Sir Thomas Coulson being present with a friend at the burning of Drury Lane Theatre, and observing several engines hastening to the spot where the fire had been extinguished, remarked that they were '*ingens* cui lumen ademptum.'

Cross-Writing.

A French bishop writing letters at the same time to Cardinal de Fleury and the Duchess of C——n, by mistake, directed one letter for the other: that intended for the duchess, but which the cardinal received, was as follows:

'I have just now wrote to his old eminence, my charming queen, to entreat his leave to return to Paris; I make no doubt but he will grant it: as for the rest, the air is so pure here, that I have acquired a good state of health, as you will perceive, when I come to have the happiness of seeing you.'

The prelate was unconscious of the blunder he had committed, until he received the following answer, which the cardinal immediately sent him:

'His old eminence advises you to extinguish your passion: his majesty orders you to remain in your diocese till further orders, and

requires that your life and conversation may be as pure as the air you breathe; and that you make no other use of your good state of health, but to discharge the duties of your function.'

Country Quarters.

A lady advanced in age, and in a declining state of health, went, by the advice of the physician, Dr. Hunter, (who relates the anecdote) to take lodgings in a village near the metropolis. She agreed for a suite of rooms, and coming downstairs observed, that the balustrades were much out of repair. 'These,' said the lady, 'must be mended, before I can think of coming to live here.' 'O no, madam,' replied the landlady, 'that would answer no purpose, as the undertaker's men in bringing down the coffins would break them again immediately.'

Voltaire and Chesterfield.

The late Lord Chesterfield happened to be at a rout in France, where Voltaire was one of the guests; Chesterfield seemed gazing about the brilliant circle of the ladies; Voltaire accosted him, 'My lord, I know you are a judge; which are more beautiful, the English or French ladies?' 'Upon my word,' replied his lordship, with his usual presence of mind, 'I am no connoisseur of *paintings*.' Some time after this, Voltaire being in London, happened to be at a nobleman's rout with lord Chesterfield; a lady in company, prodigiously painted, directed her whole discourse to Voltaire, and entirely engrossed his conversation. Chesterfield came up, and tapped him on the shoulder, saying, 'Sir, take care you are not captivated.' 'My lord, (replied the French wit,) I scorn to be taken by an English vessel under French colours.'

Collins and Langhorne.

Langhorne, knowing that Collins was buried at Chichester, travelled thither to visit the grave of his favourite poet. On inquiry, he found that Mr. Collins was interred in a sort of a garden, surrounded by the cloister of the cathedral, which is called the Paradise, and into this burial ground he was admitted by the sexton. In the evening he supped with an inhabitant of the town, and on describing to him the spot sacred to his sorrow, he was told, that his effusions of feeling had not been misapplied, for he had been lamenting a very honest man, and a very useful member of society, *Mr. Collins, the tailor*.

Mr. Charles Yorke.

When Mr. Charles Yorke was returned a member of the University of Cambridge, about the year 1770, he went round the senate to thank those who had voted for him. Among

he number was a Mr. P. who was proverbial for having the largest and most hideous face that ever was seen. Mr. Yorke, in thanking him, said, 'Sir, I have great reason to be thankful to my friends in general, but confess myself under a particular obligation to *you*, or the *very remarkable countenance* you have *shown* me upon this occasion.'

Sheridan.

As Mr. Sheridan was travelling to town in one of the public coaches, for the purpose of canvassing Westminster, at the time when Mr. Paull was his opponent, he found himself in company with two Westminster electors. In the course of conversation, one of them asked his friend to whom he meant to give his vote? The other replied, 'To Paull, certainly; for though I think him but a shabby sort of a fellow, I would vote for any one other than that rascal Sheridan!' 'Do you know Sheridan?' inquired the stranger. 'Not sir,' was the answer, 'nor should I wish to know him.' The conversation dropped here; it when the party alighted to breakfast, Sheridan called aside the other gentleman and said, 'Pray who is that very agreeable friend of yours? He is one of the pleasantest fellows I ever met with; and I should be glad to know his name?' 'His name is Mr. T.; he is an eminent lawyer, and resides in Lincoln's Inn Fields.' Breakfast over, the party resumed their seats in the coach; soon afterwards, Sheridan turned the discourse to the law. 'It is,' said he, 'a fine profession. Men may rise from it to the highest eminence in the state; and it gives vast scope to the display of talent; many of the most virtuous and able characters recorded in our history have been lawyers. I am, sorry, however, to add, that some of the greatest rascals have also been lawyers; but of all the rascals of my years I ever heard of, the greatest is one who lives in Lincoln's Inn Fields.' The gentleman, fired at the charge, said very grimly, 'I am Mr. T., sir.' 'And I am Mr. Sheridan,' was the reply. The jest was instantly seen; they shook hands, and instead of voting against the facetious orator, the lawyer exerted himself warmly in promoting election.

Pigmy Battle.

A ludicrous quarrel once took place between Count Joseph Boruwalski, the nobleman of six feet high, and the celebrated dwarf Bebe, who resided with Stanislaus, King of Poland, which is related by Boruwalski in his memoirs. 'One day (says he) we were both in the apartment of his majesty the King of Poland. The prince having much caressed me, and asked several questions, to which I returned satisfactory answers, seemed pleased with my replies, and testified his pleasure and approbation in the most affectionate manner: in addressing Bebe, he said to him, "You Bebe, what a difference there is between

Joujou (the name of Boruwalski) and you; he is amiable, cheerful, entertaining, and full of knowledge; whereas you are but a little machine." At these words I saw fury sparkle in his eyes; he answered nothing, but his countenance and blush proved enough that he was violently agitated. A moment after, the king being gone to his closet, Bebe availed himself of that instant to execute his revengeful projects; and slyly approaching, seized me by the waist, and endeavoured to push me into the fire. Luckily I laid hold with both hands of an iron hook, by which, in chimneys, the shovels and tongs are kept upright, and thus I prevented his wicked designs. The noise I made in defending myself brought back the king, who came to my assistance, and saved me from that imminent danger. He afterwards called for his servants, put Bebe into their hands, and begged them to inflict on him a corporal punishment.'

Tribute to Beauty.

As the late beautiful Duchess of Devonshire was one day stepping out of her carriage, a dustman, who was accidentally standing by, and was about to regale himself with his accustomed whiff of tobacco, caught a glance of her countenance, and instantly exclaimed, 'Love and bless you, my lady, let me light my pipe in your eyes!' It is said the duchess was so delighted with this compliment, that she frequently afterwards checked the strain of adulation, which was so constantly offered to her charms, by saying, 'Oh! after the dustman's compliment, all others are insipid.'

Royal Chaplains.

The dinner daily prepared for the royal chaplains at St. James's, was relieved for a time from suspension by an effort of wit. King Charles the Second had appointed a day for dining with his chaplains, before an end should be put to these dinners. It was Dr. South's turn to say grace; and whenever the king thus honoured his chaplains, the prescribed formula ran thus: 'God save the king, and bless the dinner.' Our witty divine took the liberty of transposing the words, by saying, 'God bless the king, and save the dinner.' 'And it shall be saved,' said the king, who kept his word.

Dr. Donne.

Dr. Donne, the Dean of St. Paul's, having married a lady of a rich and noble family, without the consent of the parents, was treated with great asperity. Having been told by the father that he was to expect no money from him, the doctor went home and wrote the following note to him, 'John Donne, Ann Donne, *undone*.' This quibble had the desired effect, and the distressed couple were restored to favour.

Foote.

A person talking to Foote of an acquaintance of his, who was so avaricious as even to lament the prospect of his funeral expenses, though a short time before he had been censuring one of his own relations for his parsimonious temper—'Now is it not strange,' continued he, 'that this man would not take the beam out of his own eye, before he attempted the mote in other people's?' 'Why, so I dare say he would,' cried Foote, 'if he was sure of selling the timber.'

The Prior of Cosmo.

In the reign of Louis XI. of France, the Prior of Cosmo obtained the king's permission to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land; and so much time elapsed after his departure, that it became the fixed belief of many, but especially of those who had any interest in so believing, that he had either died during his journey, or was held in perpetual captivity by the infidels. Among those who most pertinaciously held this opinion, was one of the king's chaplains, who had long set his eye and heart on what he willingly considered the *vacant* priory; and so frequently and forcibly did he contrive to express his conviction, on this head, that the king himself began at last to consider, that what was every day asserted, could not very well be without foundation, and the chaplain became, in consequence, prior of Cosmo. Scarcely, however, had he begun to have a lively sense of his sovereign's goodness, and his own comfort, and to feel himself at home in his new dignity, when, one morning, blanched with fatigue and age, and supporting his enfeebled frame on his long pilgrim's staff, the old prior himself made his appearance at the royal levee. As may be supposed, this sudden apparition produced much surprise, and a little awkwardness. Louis XI. had too high notions of royal consistency, ever to undo what he had once done, whether right or wrong; while, at the same time, his generous disposition would not suffer him to regard the offence of the old man's being thus inconveniently alive, as calling for any severe or immediate punishment. He, therefore, received him very graciously; touched as lightly as possible upon the loss of his priory; spoke of omitting no opportunity of benefiting him, in any way he might be able to point out; asked questions about the Grand Turk; and concluded by consigning him to Philip de Comines, his secretary for the home department, who, with a most friendly squeeze of the hand, bowed him out of his apartment. The old man had, unfortunately, however, some stubborn notions of right about him, which prevented his acquiescing, as readily as became a loyal subject, in the loss he had sustained, notwithstanding the very flattering manner in which it was palliated. On the contrary, he omitted no opportunity of presenting himself before the royal countenance,

and requesting in earnest, but respectful terms, that his priory might be restored to him. Now, not only was there a degree of provoking obstinacy in this conduct, but there was even an odour of treason about it; for, as Louis justly reasoned, thus to iterate his suit, was by implication to assert, that without such iteration it would prove unavailing; and what was this but to impeach the sovereign's prime attribute of justice, and thus covertly to hold him up as unfit for his kingly office? It was upon the spur of some such reflections as these, and immediately after an interview with the importunate subject of them, that Louis, calling to his friend and minister, Tristan, bade him, without delay, dispose of the prior of Cosmo, that he might be no more troubled with him. Now, Tristan was not only too loyal to dispute his master's will, but he had, moreover, that delicacy of feeling which forbade him to pry into the reasons by which it might be influenced. In his mind, the will of heaven and that of the king were the same thing; or rather, the latter claimed a superiority over the former, in proportion as the consequences of obedience and rebellion, in the latter case, were more sensible and more immediate than in the former. He accordingly took an opportunity of calling not on the prior *de jure*, but on the prior *de facto*, that same evening, whom he found, nothing aware of his approaching fate, enjoying a social hour in the company of a few particular friends. As Tristan was well known to be a favourite at court, it may be supposed he was received with the utmost politeness, and requested to take a seat at the table; an invitation he at first modestly declined; but, upon being pressed, he consented to take a single glass of wine; after which he requested a few moments' private conversation with the prior, to whom, as soon as they were alone, he intimated the royal order, and presented the sack in which he was to be enclosed, and thrown into the Seine.

The next morning, as King Louis was taking the air in the garden of the Louvre, chatting freely with his faithful Tristan, on matters concerning the welfare of his realm, and inwardly congratulating himself on being at length quit of the eternal prior, on turning suddenly the corner of an alley, to his inexpressible dismay, he beheld the apparition of the old bearded suitor again crawling towards him. 'Ah, traitor!' he exclaimed, turning upon Tristan, 'did I not charge you to rid me of that prior, and here he is again before me?' 'Sire,' replied the terrified favourite, 'you charged me to rid you of the prior of Cosmo, and I went accordingly to the priory, whence I took and drowned him yesterday evening. But, gracious sir, there is no harm done by the mistake; a prior more or less can make but little difference: this evening I'll rid you of this one also.' 'No, no,' said the king, smiling graciously (for he was a monarch of most legitimate facetiousness), 'one prior is enough at a time. Go, old man, and take possession of your priory, you'll now find it vacant.'

The Shakspeare Gallery.

When Alderman Boydell, in order to encourage the fine arts, and do honour to his country, first proposed his magnificent and superb edition of Shakspeare, an envious cotemporary imputed it to the vanity of the alderman, who thus wished to graft his humble name upon the fame of the immortal bard, and the following *jeu d'esprit* appeared in one of the daily journals :—

'Old Father Time, as Ovid sings,
Is a great eater up of things,
And, without salt or mustard,
Will gulp you down a castle wall,
As easily as at Guildhall
An alderman eats custard.

'But Boydell, careful of his fame,
By grafting it on Shakspeare's name,
Shall beat his neighbour hollow;
For to the bard of Avon's stream
Old Time has said, with Polypheme,
You'll be the last I'll swallow.'

Colley Cibber.

Colley Cibber belonged to a club composed of persons of the first fashion, who occasionally met at the Globe, then a celebrated tavern in Covent Garden. This meeting, intended for enjoyment of wit and wine, was often interrupted by a set of visitants, who were constantly adding to the ordinary supper some of the most expensive dishes they could think of. Cibber, who did not eat supper, saw this, and determined to have his joke. Accordingly he one night spoke to the waiter to buy a pair of silk stockings, and charge it to account. When the bill came up, the first item was, 'To Mr. Cibber's supper, one pair white silk stockings, 18s.' This raised a general laugh, every person supposing the waiter to have crept into the bill by the waiter's mistake. However, Cibber very gently set them right, by assuring them it was by his order, as he saw no reason why he should not go to as much expense about his legs as they did about their stomachs. The waiter was too just not to be felt; and the consequence was, through shame, discontinued for future.

Nobility.

England, as the titles of nobility are conferred, and cannot be usurped by fictitious characters without detection, they confer a degree of consideration upon the possessor, superior to what is observed in foreign countries, where they are abundant to an immense number, and where every needy adventurer assumes them. A German baron, in derision once observed to a French marquis that the title of *Marquis* was very common in France. 'I,' added he, laughing, 'have a vis in my kitchen.' 'And I,' returned the Frenchman, who felt himself insulted, 'have a vis in my stable.' This

repartee was particularly happy; it being well known that German grooms are as common out of their own country as French cooks out of theirs.

Council of Trent.

M. Danez, envoy from the court of France to the council of Trent, spoke very strongly against the court of Rome, and in favour of the reformation. When he had concluded, an Italian prelate said with contempt, *Gallus cantat*. M. Danez immediately replied, *Utinam ad galli cantum Petrus respiceret*.

Smart Reply.

Some schoolboys meeting a poor woman driving asses, one of them said to her, 'Good morning, mother of asses.' 'Good morning, my child,' was the reply.

Translations.

A French poet having undertaken the arduous task of translating Shakspeare into his own language, was much puzzled with the lines in Henry IV. :—

'E'en such a man, so faint, so spiritless,
So dull, so dead in look, so woe-begone.'

The early part he got on with pretty well, but at length concluded the verse with, '*Si triste, allez vous en.*'

Another of these translators rendered, 'Out, out, brief candle, '*Sortez, sortez, courte chandelle.*'

A third, who translated 'Much Ado about Nothing,' for the Parisian stage, thus entitled it, '*Beaucoup de bruit, peu de chose.*'

A Paris paper, quoting from the *Freeman's Journal*, calls it the *Journal des hommes libres*. This reminds us of a Frenchman, who published his travels in England, and speaking of the Green Man and Still, translated it, *L'homme vert et tranquille*.

In the French 'Dictionnaire Biographique,' under the article Charles I., it is stated that the anniversary of his death is observed in England by a general fast, *par un jeûne général*. A German translated the passage thus :—'The anniversary of the death of Charles the First is still observed in England by a *young general*.'

A French author, in his translation of 'Cicero's Letters to Athens,' meeting with this expression, '*Pridie autem apud me CRASIPES fuerat*,' has rendered it, '*Le jour précédent GROS-PIED fût chez moi.*'

Sir John Pringle states, in one of his works, that he cured a soldier by the use of two quarts of dog and duck water daily (a mineral spring in St. George's Fields) ; a French physician, in his translation, specifies it as 'an excellent broth made of a dog and a duck.'

A French writer relating that the great Duke of Marlborough broke an officer, translated it by *roué*, 'broken on the wheel.'

Another French writer, in translating Cibber's play of *Love's Last Shift*, entitled it thus, 'La dernière Chemise de l'Amour.'

Another, in his Life of Congreve, has translated the play of the *Mourning Bride*, *L'Épouse du Matin*.

Reforming a Scold.

In the early period of the history of Methodism, some of Mr. Wesley's opponents, in the excess of their zeal against enthusiasm, took up a whole waggon load of methodists, and carried them before a justice. When they were asked what these persons had done, there was an awkward silence ; at last one of the accusers said, 'Why, they pretended to be better than other people ; and, besides, they prayed from morning to night.' The magistrate asked if they had done anything else? 'Yes, sir,' said an old man, 'an't please your worship ; they converted my wife. Till she went among them, she had such a tongue ! and now she is quiet as a lamb.' 'Carry them back, carry them back,' said the magistrate, 'and let them convert all the scolds in the town.'

Gascon Reproved.

A descendant of a family in Gascony, celebrated for its flow of language and love of talking, and not for any deeds of glory, descanted before a numerous company, upon the well-known bravery of his ancestors and relations. He then, to show that the race had not degenerated, *modestly* launched into a *faithful* description of his own battles, duels, and successes. He was once, he said, a passenger on board a French frigate during the war, and falling in with an English squadron composed of three seventy-fours, fought with them for five hours, when luckily the ship taking fire, he was blown up with ten of his countrymen, and dropped into one of the seventy-fours, the crew of which laid down their arms and surrendered ; while the two remaining men of war, struck with dismay at the sight of one of their ships in the possession of the enemy, crowded sails and ran away !

Such were his *faithful* accounts, with which he would still have continued to annoy the

company, had not one of his countrymen, more enlightened, frankly acknowledged the natural propensity which leads the inhabitants of Gascony to revel in imaginary scenes, and resolving to awe him into silence, thus addressed him : 'All your exploits are mere commonplace, in comparison to those which I have achieved ; and I will relate a single one that surpasses all yours.'

The babbler opened his ears, no doubt secretly intending to appropriate this story to himself in future time, when none of the hearers should be present, and modestly owned, that all those he had mentioned were mere children's tricks, performed without any exertion, but that he had some in store, which might shine unobscured by the side of the most brilliant deeds of ancient ages.

'One evening,' said the other, 'as I was returning to town from the country, I had to pass through a narrow lane, well known for being infested with highwaymen. My horse was in good order, my pistols loaded, and my broadsword hung at my side ; I entered the lane without any apprehension. Scarcely had I reached the middle, when a loud shout behind me, made me turn my head, and I saw a man with a short gun running fast towards me ; I was going to face him with my horse, when two men, with large cudgels in their hands, rushing from the hedges, seized the reins, and threatened me with instant death. Undaunted, I took my two pistols, but before I had time to fire, one was knocked out of my hand, the other went off, and one of the robbers fell. I then drew my sword, and though bruised by the blow I had received, struck with all my might, and split the head of the other in two. Freed from any danger on their side, I attempted a second time to turn my horse.' Here he paused a while ; and our babbler longing to know the end of this adventure, exclaimed, 'And the third ?' 'Oh, the third !' answered the other ; 'he shot me dead.'

Gasconades.

A Gascon passing one night through a churchyard, thought he saw a spectre ; drawing forth his sword, he called out aloud, 'Ha ! ha ! do you want to be killed a second time ? I am your man.'

Another hero of the same country used to say, that 'he could not look into a mirror, without being afraid of himself.'

When Robespierre had been guillotined at Paris, a Gascon officer in the French army thus expressed the dread he had entertained of that tyrant. 'As often as the name of Robespierre was mentioned to me, I used to take off my hat, in order to see if my head was in it.'

Literary Blunders.

A blunder has been related of the monks in the dark ages, which was likely enough to happen, when ignorance was so prevalent.

rector of a parish going to law with his parishioners, about paving the church, quoted the authority from St. Peter; 'Paveat illi, et paveat ego;' which he construed, 'They are to pave the church and not I.' This was allowed to be good law by the judge, who was so an ecclesiastic, and the rector gained his case.

Dr. Johnson, while compiling his dictionary, put a note to the 'Gentleman's Magazine,' to inquire the etymology of the word CURMUDGEON. Having obtained the desired information, he thus recorded in his work his obligation to an anonymous writer: CURMUDGEON, *s.* a vicious way of pronouncing *cœur méchant*. An unknown correspondent.

Ash copied the word into his dictionary, in the following manner:

CURMUDGEON, from the French, *cœur*, 'unknown,' and *méchant*, 'correspondent.'

Theatrical Correspondence.

A man of the name of Stone, who was formerly employed by Garrick to get recruits for the low parts of the drama, had hired a boy to perform the character of the Bishop of Winchester, in Shakspeare's play of *Henry Eighth*; but on the night of performance he wrote a note to Garrick, in these words: 'Sir, the Bishop of Winchester is getting drunk at Bear, and swears he will not play to to-day. I am yours. &c.' 'W. STONE.'

On this Garrick immediately replied. 'Sir, the bishop may go to the devil. I do not know a greater rascal, except yourself.'

D. G.

Some time after, Stone wrote as follows. 'Mr. Lacy turned me out of the lobby to-day. I only *ax'd* for my two guineas for the last bishop, and he said I should not get a farthing. I cannot live upon air. I am a few *Cupids* you may have cheap, as I belong to a poor journeyman shoemaker like with now and then. I am, &c.'

'W. STONE.'

Answer. 'Stone, you are the best fellow in the world; bring the *Cupids* to the theatre to-morrow: if they are under six and well dressed, you shall have a guinea a piece for them. I can get me two good *murderers*, I will show you handsomely, particularly the spout-blow who keeps the apple stall on Tower Street; the cut in his face is just the thing. I will have an *alderman* or two for *Richard*, I can: and I have no objection to treat you for a comely *mayor*.'

'D. G.'

Parliamentary Bulls.

An account of the great number of suicides, and other of the House of Commons moved to bring in a bill, to make it a capital offence.

May, 1784, a bill introduced to limit the practice of franking, was sent from the par-

liament of Ireland for the royal approbation. It contained a clause, 'That should a member be unable to write, he might authorize another person to frank for him, provided, that on the back of the letter so franked, the member gives a certificate, *under his hand*, of his inability to write.'

In a bill for pulling down the old Newgate in Dublin, and rebuilding it in the same spot, it was enacted, that to prevent unnecessary expense, the prisoners should remain in the old gaol till the new one was finished.

When Sir John Scott (now Lord Eldon) brought in his bill for restraining the liberty of the press, a member moved as an additional clause, that all anonymous works should have the name of the author printed on the title-page.

Fine Writing.

Mr. Dryden happening to pass an evening in company with the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Rochester, Lord Dorset, and some other gentlemen of the first distinction, and reputation for genius, the conversation turned on literary subjects, such as elegance of style, fertility of invention, &c. It was in the end agreed that each person should write something on whatever subject chanced to strike his fancy, and place it under the candlestick. Mr. Dryden, as one with whom there was no contending, was excepted from the competition, but appointed judge of the whole. Some of the company were at more than ordinary pains to excel; the person who seemed to enter into the thing with the least concern was Lord Dorset, who with a careless air wrote two or three lines, and slipped them into the place assigned. When they had all deposited their pieces, Dryden proceeded to examine them. In perusing them, he manifested strong marks of pleasure and satisfaction; but at one in particular he was in the most boundless rapture. 'I must acknowledge,' said he, 'that there are abundance of fine things in my hands, and such as do honour to the personages who wrote them; but I am under the indispensable necessity of giving the highest preference to Lord Dorset. I must request you will hear it yourselves, gentlemen; and I believe each and every one of you will approve my judgment.'

"I promise to pay John Dryden, Esq., or order, on demand, the sum of five hundred pounds."

"DORSET."

'I must confess,' continued Dryden, 'that I am equally charmed with the style and the subject; and I flatter myself, gentlemen, that I stand in need of no arguments to induce you to join with me in opinion against yourselves. This kind of writing exceeds any other, whether ancient or modern. It is not the essence, but the quintessence of language;

and is in fact, reason, and argument surpassing everything.'

All the company readily concurred with the bard, and everyone was forward to express a due admiration of his lordship's skill in fine writing, with which it is probable that Mr. Dryden was still more satisfied than any of them.

Begging Quarter.

A French gentleman at the battle of Spire had orders to give no quarter. A German officer being taken, begged his life. The Frenchman replied, 'Sir, you may ask me any other favour; but as for your life, it is impossible for me to grant it.'

George Faulkner.

When Foote was acting in Dublin, he introduced into one of his pieces, called the *Orators*, the character of George Faulkner, the celebrated printer, whose manners and dress he so closely imitated, that the poor fellow could not appear in public without meeting with the scoffs and jeers of the very boys in the streets. Enraged at the ridicule thus brought upon him, Faulkner one evening treated to the seat of the gods all the *devils* of the printing office, for the express purpose of their hissing and hooting Foote off the stage. Faulkner placed himself in the pit to enjoy the actor's degradation; but when the objectionable scene came on, the unfortunate printer was excessively chagrined to find that so far from a groan or a hiss being heard, his gallery friends partook of the comical laugh. The next morning he arraigned his inky conclave, inveighed against them for having neglected his injunctions, and on demanding some reason for the treachery, was lacerated ten times deeper by the simplicity of their answer, 'Arrah, master,' said the spokesman, 'do not be after tipping us your blarney; do you think we did not know you? Sure 'twas your own sweet self that was on the stage, and shower light upon us if we go to the play-house to hiss our worthy master.'

Failing in this experiment, Faulkner commenced an action against Foote, and got a verdict of damages to the amount of three hundred pounds. This drove Foote back to England, where he resumed his mimicry, and humorously took off the lawyers on his trial, and the judges who had condemned him.

Johnny M'Cree between Tragedy and Comedy.

An eccentric Scotchman once applied to Mr. Garrick to introduce a production of his on the stage. The Scotchman was such a good-humoured fellow that he was called 'Honest Johnny M'Cree.' Johnny wrote four acts of a tragedy, which he showed to Mr. Garrick.

who dissuaded him from finishing it, telling him that his talent did not lie in that way; so Johnny abandoned his tragedy, and set about writing a comedy. When this was finished, he showed it to Mr. Garrick, who found it more exceptionable than the tragedy, and of course could not be persuaded to bring it forward on the stage. This surprised poor Johnny, and he remonstrated. 'Nae, now, David,' said he, 'did nae you tell me that my talents did nae lie in tragedy?' 'Yes,' replied Garrick, 'but I did not tell you that they lay in comedy.' 'Then,' exclaimed Johnny, 'gin they dinna lie there, where the deil do they lie, mon?'

English Hospitality.

Prince George of Denmark, the husband of Queen Anne, in passing through Bristol, went to the Exchange, accompanied by one gentleman only, and remained there until the merchants had pretty generally withdrawn, none of whom had sufficient resolution to speak to him. At length a person of the name of John Duddleston, a bodice maker, mustered the necessary courage, and going up to the prince, inquired if he was not the husband of Queen Anne? Having learned that this was the case, Duddleston said, he had observed with much concern that none of the merchants had invited the prince home to dinner; but this was not for want of love to the queen, or to him, but because they did not consider themselves prepared to receive so great a man. He added that he was ashamed to think of his royal highness dining at an inn, and therefore entreated that he would go home and dine with him, and bring the gentleman along with him, informing him that he had a good piece of beef and a plum pudding, with ale of his dame's own brewing. The prince admired the loyalty of the man, and though he had ordered dinner at the White Lion, he accompanied the bodice maker home. Duddleston called his wife, who was upstairs, desiring her to put on a clean apron, and come down, for the queen's husband and another gentleman were come to dine with them. She immediately came down with her clean blue apron, and was immediately saluted by the prince. In the course of the dinner, the prince invited his host to town, and to bring his wife with him, at the same time giving him a card to facilitate his introduction at court.

A few months after, Duddleston, with his wife behind him, on horseback, set out for London, where they soon found the prince, and were by him introduced to the queen. Her majesty received them most graciously, and invited them to an approaching dinner, informing them, that they must have new clothes for the occasion. They were allowed to choose for themselves, when both selected purple velvet, such as the prince then had on. The dresses were prepared, and they were introduced by the queen herself, as the most loyal persons in Bristol, and the only ones in that city who had invited the prince, her hus-

land, to their house. After the entertainment was over, the queen desired Duddlestone to kneel, laid a sword on his head, and, to use Lady Duddlestone's own words, said to him, 'Ston up, Sir Jan.' He was then offered money, or a place under government; but he would not accept either, informing the queen, that he had £50 out at interest, and he apprehended that the number of people he saw about court must be very expensive. The queen made Lady Duddlestone a present of a gold watch from her side, which her ladyship considered so great an ornament, that she never went to market, without having it suspended over her blue apron.

Grave Whim.

In the 'Thuana' we read of a passionate old judge, who was sent into Gascony, with very considerable powers to examine into many abuses which had crept into the administration of justice. Arriving late at Port St. Mary, he asked 'how near he was to the city of Agen?' They told him two leagues. He then determined to proceed that same evening, although they told him that the leagues were long, and the roads very bad. In consequence of his obstinacy, the judge was smirched, benighted, and almost shaken to pieces. He reached Agen however by midnight, with tired horses, harassed spirits, and went to bed in a very ill-humour. The next morning he summoned the court of justice to meet; when after having opened his commission in form, his first decree was, 'that for the future, the distance from Agen to Port St. Mary should be reckoned "six leagues."' And this decree was ordered to be registered in the records of the province, before he could proceed to any other business.

Novel Drive.

Among the many fanciful experiments made by George, the third Earl of Oxford, was one driving four red deer (stags) in a phaeton, instead of horses. He succeeded in reducing them to perfect discipline, and often took excursions with them in the public roads. It happened at last, as he was one day driving them to Newmarket, that their ears were accidentally saluted with the cry of a pack of hounds, who soon after approaching the road, immediately caught scent of the four-in-hand, and commenced a new sort of chase. In vain did his lordship exert all his charioteering skill; in vain did his well-trained grooms endeavour to ride before them: reins, trammels, and the weight of the carriage were of no effect: off they went with the celerity of a whirlwind, and this modern Phaeton bade fair to experience the fate of his namesake. Luckily, however, his lordship had been accustomed to drive these fiery-eyed steeds to Ram Inn, in Newmarket, which was most happily at hand. Into the yard they suddenly bounded, to the dismay of the ostler and stable boys; here they were fortunately

overpowered, and the stags, the phaeton, and his lordship, were all instantaneously huddled together, in a large barn, just as the hounds appeared in full cry at the gate.

The Ploughman and his Pater-noster.

In an old jest book in the Roxburgh collection, called 'Tales and Quick Answers, very Mery and Pleasant to Rede,' we find one, of which many versions have been given. It is headed, 'Of the Ploughman that sayde his Pater-noster;' and proceeds thus:—A rude uplandish ploughman, which on a tyme reproving a good holy father, sayed that he could saye all his prayers with a hale mynde and stedfast intention, without thinkyng on any other thinge. To whome the good holy man sayde, 'Go to, say one Pater-noster to the ende, and thynke on no other thinge, and I will give the myn horse.' 'That I shall do,' quod the ploughman; and so began to saye, *Pater-noster qui es in celis*, tyll he came to *sanctificetur nomen tuum*, and then his thought moved him to ask this question: 'Yea, but shall I have the sadil and bridel withal?' and so he lost his bargain.

Dr. Ratcliffe.

One evening as Dr. Ratcliffe was sacrificing in a tavern to the purple god, to whom he was as much devoted as to the god of physic, a gentleman entered the room in great haste, and almost breathless, 'Doctor, my wife is at the point of death! make haste; come with me.' 'Not till I have finished my bottle, however,' replied the doctor. The man, who happened to be a fine athletic fellow, finding entreaty useless, snatched up the doctor, and carried him out of the tavern. The moment he set the doctor upon his legs, he received from him, in a very emphatic manner, the following threat: 'Now, you rascal, I'll cure your wife in revenge.' The doctor kept his word.

Real Character.

Morand, author of *Le Capricieuse*, was in a box of the theatre during the first representation of that comedy; the pit loudly expressing disapprobation at the extravagance and improbability of some traits in his character, the author became impatient: he put his head out of the box, and called, 'Know, gentlemen, this is the very picture of my mother-in-law. What do you say now?'

Absent Man.

A celebrated living poet, occasionally a little absent in mind, was invited by a friend, whom he met in the street, to dine with him the next Sunday at a country lodging, which he had taken for the summer months. The address was, near the *Green Man at Dul-*

zeich;' which, not to put his inviter to the trouble of pencilling down, the *absent* man promised faithfully to remember. But when Sunday came, he fully late enough made his way to Greenwich, and began inquiring for the sign of the *Dull Man*! No such sign was to be found; and after losing an hour, a person guessed that though there was no *Dull Alan* at Greenwich, there was a *Green Man* at Dulwich, which the *absent* man might possibly mean! This remark connected the broken chain, and the poet was under the necessity of taking his chop by himself.

Comparative Virtue.

A shopkeeper at Doncaster had for his virtues obtained the name of the *little rascal*. A stranger asked him why this appellation had been given to him? 'To distinguish me from the rest of my trade,' quoth he, 'who are all *great rascals*.'

Railer Silenced.

A woman stopped a divine in the streets of the metropolis, with this salutation: 'There is no truth in the land, sir! there is no truth in the land.' 'Then you do not speak truth, good woman,' replied the clergyman. 'O yes, I do,' returned she hastily. 'Then there *is* truth in the land,' rejoined he as quickly.

Monsieur Geoffrin.

The husband of the celebrated Madame Geoffrin was one of the most stupid of men. A wag, who was in the habit of providing him with books to read, sent him several times, in succession, the first volume of Father Lobat's Travels. The good man, with all the composure possible, always read the book over again, without perceiving the mistake. 'How do you like these Travels, sir?' 'They are very interesting, but the author seems somewhat given to repetition.' He read Bayle's Dictionary with great attention, following the line with his finger across the double columns! 'What an excellent work,' he said, 'if it was only a little less abstruse.' Notwithstanding the poor man's deplorable deficiency, he was permitted to sit down to dinner at the end of the table, upon condition that he never attempted to join in the conversation. A foreigner, who was very assiduous in his visits to Madame Geoffrin, one day not seeing the dumb Monsieur as usual at table, inquired after him. 'What have you done with the poor man whom I always used to see here, and who never spoke a word?' 'Oh, that was my husband; he is dead!'

Johnson and Mallet.

When Dr. Johnson first became acquainted with David Mallet, they once went to laugh away an hour at Southwark fair. At one of the booths where wild beasts were exhibited

to the admiring crowd, was a very large bear, which the showman assured them was *cotched* in the deserts of Russia. The bear was muzzled, but to all the company, except John on, he was very surly and ill-tempered. Of the philosopher he seemed extremely fond. 'How is it,' said one of the company, 'that this savage animal is so attached to Mr. Johnson?' 'From a very natural cause,' replied Mallet; 'the bear is a Russian philosopher, and he knows that Linnæus would have placed him in the same class with the English moralist.'

Theatrical Sarcasm.

A meanly dressed performer beginning the part of Mithridate, in Racine's celebrated play of that name:

'Enfin, après un an, je te revois, Arbate;'

On which a person from the pit replied very pointedly:

'Avec les mêmes bas, et la même cravate.'

Tale of Horror.

A gentleman named Leadbetter, a hop-merchant, resident in one of the western counties, had for many years made a practice of attending the great annual fair at Weyhill, as a purchaser of the commodity in which he chiefly dealt. It happened on one occasion, that he arrived at the inn to which he always went, some hours later than usual; and on going into the house he learned, to his regret, that so much company had arrived before him, that every bed was engaged. Rather than go to any house to which he was a stranger, he determined to have a bed made upon some chairs in the travellers' room. Mrs. Symonds, the landlady, was about to carry this arrangement into effect, when she happened to recollect that there was an ostler's room in the yard, which possibly Mr. Leadbetter might prefer to sleeping in a room where he would be liable to be disturbed very early in the morning. To this the gentleman willingly acceded; and after some short time, he passed up the gallery in the yard which led to the apartment, and retired to bed.

Sleep lent its leaden influence soon to the weary traveller, and he reposed soundly, until a strange noise in the gallery which he had ascended, roused him into sense again. The noise was that of an extremely heavy footstep. Mr. Leadbetter counted every step; and, to his alarm, the sound increased, until the cause of it reached the door of his apartment. In an instant a tall and gaunt figure entered the room, with a candle in one hand, and a butcher's knife in the other. Mr. L. attempted to speak, but his voice failed him, and the figure approached the bed. It shook the horror-stricken man; then drew the knife several times across his own throat; went to a table in the room, set down the light, and immediately quitted the place. Mr. Leadbetter began to breathe again; he imagined, after a few minutes, that he must have been dream-

g; and yet, the candle and candlestick on the table were no phantoms, they were palpable realities. He instantly rose with an intent to kick the door, but found that it was without lock or bolt, and that there was nothing else in the room but the bedstead, of any weight. This fortunately ran on casters, he rolled it to the door, and thinking himself then tolerably safe from further intrusion, he endeavoured to go to sleep again. But sleep would not revisit his eyelids; and he lay tossing about until, in about an hour, he heard the same sounds which had before alarmed him, issued from the gallery stairs, and in a few moments, the door of his room being pushed with great violence, his bed was rolled into the middle of the apartment, and again the rigid figure stood before him! The faculties of speech and motion now forsook him quite; his figure shook him again, with fierce gesticulation, and again drawing the knife across his throat, Mr. Leadbetter observed that *streaks of blood were on the blade*, which were there before! It then passed away from the room, and the remainder of Mr. Leadbetter's sense fled with it; he swooned, and remained for some time insensible. As soon as he came to himself, he put on his clothes with the best speed his agitation would allow, and descended into the yard of the inn. In a stable there he saw a light, and approaching it, found a man dressing down a horse, to whom he communicated that something particular had happened, and that he must have Mr. and Mrs. Symonds called immediately. The landlord came down; on expressing his apprehension that Mr. Leadbetter was very ill, as his looks seemed to indicate, was informed that indeed he was *well*. Mr. L. proceeded to relate all that happened to him, and concluded by pressing his firm conviction that some terrible murder had been committed on the premises in the night. Mr. Symonds on hearing the tale, was scarcely less alarmed than the relater. The case was quickly roused by the terrors of the landlord and hostess; and the business of the fair almost forgotten in the wonder excited by the story, which lost nothing by repetition to several guests of the inn, as they successively inquired into the cause of the early disturbance. At six o'clock the ostler, whose room Mr. Leadbetter had occupied, arrived from a lodging where he had got in the town, on being turned out of his usual bed. Much pleasure was expressed on seeing him; and on the story being related to him. 'Why,' said he, 'I'll lay my life I saw the *ghost* very well, it was the *deaf and dumb fellow* that comes to help me to kill the man I who always comes up to my room to see when we have one to kill!' The murder was out! It was indeed the *deaf and dumb fellow*, who had made an appointment with the ostler to kill a pig at four o'clock in the morning, and who, thinking the ostler had gone first to awaken him, and a good time for the same purpose, after he had killed the pig.

Punch.

Mrs. Elizabeth Carter once went to a puppet-show at Deal, with some respectable friends. Punch was uncommonly dull and serious, though usually more jocose than delicate. 'Why, Punch,' says the showman, 'what makes you so stupid?' 'I can't talk my own talk,' answers Punch, 'because the famous Miss Carter is here.'

Witty Coward.

A French marquis having received several blows with a stick, which he never thought of resenting, a friend asked him, 'How he could reconcile it with his honour to suffer them to pass without notice?' 'Poh!' replied the marquis, 'I never trouble my head with anything that passes behind my back.'

Argumentum ad Hominem.

About the year 1740 General Sabine was Governor of Gibraltar. Being one of those worthy trustees of power who never fail to make the most of it, he attempted to extort from a Jew of Barbary, who lived under his government, a sum of money, by giving him to understand, that his safety depended on his compliance. The Israelite, who was no fool, could not prevail with himself to part with his money; and of course did not choose to comprehend the indirect menaces of the governor. Sabine, thus baffled in his iniquitous project, made the Jew be seized, put him on board a vessel, and despatched him to the bashaw of Tetuan, with a letter, the burden of which was that he (General S.) had sent the bashaw a fat pigeon to *pluck*.

The bashaw, however, though an infidel, had less in him of the principles of Barbary than the Christian governor, and being alike struck at the cruelty of the proceeding, and indignant at the indecent proposal, he gave the Jew the general's letter, with liberty to go where he pleased. The Jew, who had been so great a sufferer by the proceeding, resolved, on mature advice, to go to London and seek redress. When he arrived there, he was advised to institute an action for damages against Sabine, which he accordingly did.

Mr. Nowell was counsel for the Jew, and Mr. Murray, afterwards Lord Mansfield, was counsel for General Sabine. When the cause came to a hearing, Mr. Murray was pleased to be exceedingly facetious on the Jew being sent over to Barbary, of which country he was a native. 'Wonderful stress,' he said, 'had been laid on the cruelty of the proceeding; and the banishment of the Jew has been termed an almost unparalleled act of inhumanity. Most true it is he was banished—but to where? Why, to the place of his *nativity*! And where could be the cruelty, where the hardship, where the injustice, of banishing a man to *his own country*?' Mr. Nowell replied to this question with great

vivacity, by asking another. 'Since,' said he, 'my learned brother seems to make so light of the matter, I would beg leave to bring home the case, by only asking the gentleman how he would like to be banished to *his own native country* ?'

The court were thrown into a roar of laughter, in which Mr. Murray, notwithstanding his habitual self-possession, could not help joining heartily. He did not attempt to make any rejoinder ; but some anonymous wit of the day has left us the following triplet, which we dare say was a correct enough transcript of his feelings.

'To Scotland banished ! I conjure you name it not ;

To drudge, to starve, in dull obscurity to rot.

Come rather death, a thousand deaths, to such a lot.'

Jeu de Mot.

At Oxford, in the botanic garden of the Regius Professor of Hebrew, is a fig-tree, which was brought from the East, and planted by Dr. Pocock, in the year 1648. Of this tree the following anecdote is related ; Dr. Kennicott, the celebrated Hebrew scholar, and compiler of the Polyglot Bible, was passionately fond of this fruit ; and seeing a very fine fig on this tree which he wished to preserve, wrote on a label, '*Dr. Kennicott's fig*,' which he tied to the fruit. An Oxonian wag, who had observed the transaction, watched the fruit daily, and when ripe gathered it, and exchanged the label for one thus worded : '*A fig for Dr. Kennicott.*'

Plain Talking.

A village parson having in his sermons taken too exalted a pitch for the comprehension of his auditors, found it necessary to make some apology, which he did as follows : 'Respected friends—My oral documents having recently been the subject of your vituperation, I hope it will not be an instance of vain eloquence or supererogation, if I laconically promulgate, that avoiding all syllogistical, aristocratical, and peripatetical propositions, all hyperbolical exaggerations and extenuations, whether physically, philosophically, philologically, politically, or polemically considered, either in my diurnal peregrinations, or nocturnal lucubrations, they shall be definitively and categorically assimilated with, and rendered congenial to, occiputs, caputs, and cerebrums of you, my most superlatively respectable auditory.'

Retaliation.

Among the most respectable hangers-on at the Scotch bar, some years ago, was a little primitive looking old man, who had originally been a shoemaker, but had, by dint of strong natural capacity, qualified himself for the ho-

nourable station of a member of the faculty. Unfortunately, however, his talents happened to include scarcely one of the many things necessary to success at the bar, and it was his lot to share the very common fate of being more noticed for having, than not having, a brief. The living which he could not gain by forensic skill, he contrived to pick up in a very meritorious way, by delivering private lectures on civil law, and by writing for the press. In mathematics he was extremely well-versed ; and a small work which he produced in this branch of science had the good fortune, not only to be well received, but to become so much of a standard authority, as to offer the promise of many successive editions. When in the zenith of its popularity, however, out came that Leviathan of literature, the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' and among other valuable morsels which it swallowed up, words, lines, diagrams, and all, was Mr. Wright's little work on mathematics. The author, justly incensed, hastened to consult the late Mr. Henry Erskine (brother of Lord Erskine), who had always shown a great friendship for him, on the propriety of bringing an action of damages against the publisher of the 'Encyclopædia.' Mr. Erskine, on hearing the grievance stated, observed, that there could not be a doubt that an action would lie ; but, continued he, 'I need not, Mr. Wright, tell a man of your knowledge of the world, that to be in the right, and get your right, are two very different things. The publishers of the 'Encyclopædia' are wealthy ; the whole system of their work is at stake ; for you are not the only deserving writer they have pillaged ; and doubtless, if you bring an action against them, they will resist it to the utmost. You may begin the process, but God knows when you will get out of it. You will be fighting, too, not your own battle, but the battles of the whole host of authors who have been pillaged by these common pirates ; and all you may gain by your Quixotism will probably be beggary and ruin. No, Mr. Wright, take the advice of a friend, have nothing to do with law. But I'll tell you what, there is still one remedy left you ; you know there is such a thing as the *lex talionis* ; go and publish a new edition of your mathematics, and—' 'What?' cried Mr. Wright eagerly. 'Why, take in the whole of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" as a quotation.' This was too much for the temper of the injured mathematician ; he turned away in great dudgeon from his witty brother, and, as we have heard, never spoke to him, as a friend, again.

Irish Knights.

Harwood, the Irish counsellor, passing through Drogheda soon after the numerous creation of peers in 1776, called upon his friend the mayor, who was by trade a grocer. 'How fares my old friend?' said the counsellor. 'Oh, never worse!' 'Why, what's the matter?' 'How shall I ever sell my cheese and butter, now that the Duke of

Dorset has made me a knight?' 'Poh! poh!' says Harwood, 'hold your tongue, you old fool. You are well off that he did not make you a lord!'

Lessing.

The celebrated Lessing was remarkable for frequent absence of mind. Having missed money at different times, without being able to discover who took it, he determined to put the honesty of his servant to a trial, and left a handful of gold on the table. 'Of course you counted it?' said one of his friends. 'Count it!' said Lessing, rather embarrassed; 'no; I forgot that.'

At a public sale, there was a book which Lessing was very desirous of possessing. He gave three of his friends at different times a commission to buy it at any price. They accordingly bid against each other till they had got as far as ninety crowns, there having been no other bidder after it had reached ten crowns. Happily one of them thought it best to speak to the others; when it appeared they had all been bidding for Lessing, whose forgetfulness in this instance cost him eighty crowns.

Speaking French.

Bonaparte once complained to Maria Louisa of the conduct of her mother-in-law and the duchess; having manifested considerable dissatisfaction, he added, 'As to the emperor, say nothing of him, he is a *ganache*' (a word of contempt; a stupid fellow). Maria Louisa did not understand this expression; and as soon as Napoleon withdrew, she asked her attendants what it meant? As none of the ladies could venture to explain its real signification, when they knew how it had been applied, they told her that the word was used to designate a serious, reflecting man. The empress forgot neither the term nor the definition; and she some time after applied it in a very amusing way. During the time she was entrusted with the Regency of the French empire, an important question one day came under discussion at the Council of State. Having remarked that Cambacères did not utter a word, she turned towards him, and said, 'I should like to have your opinion on this business, sir, for I know you are a *ganache*.' At this compliment Cambacères started with astonishment and consternation, and he repeated in a low tone of voice the word *ganache*. 'Yes,' replied the empress, '*ganache*, a serious thinking sort of man; is that the meaning of it?' No one made any reply, and the discussion proceeded.

Soon after the French had entered Mayence, the beginning of the revolution, a party of them were invited to a public entertainment. The name of the former prefect was *Jambon*; and his family were universally beloved;

and after supper one of the good citizens proposed to drink the health of *Les Jambons de Mayence, les meilleurs au monde*: this was graciously received by the strangers, and enthusiastically by the inhabitants. The next morning every *ham* to be procured was purchased, and sent to Paris as the most acceptable present; and Mayence has since been described in the 'Traveller's Guide' as remarkable for the quality of its hams, from this accidental and ludicrous occurrence.

Point of Precedence.

A litigation once arose in the University of Cambridge, whether Doctors in Law, or Doctors in Medicine, should hold precedence. The Chancellor asked whether the thief or the hangman preceded at an execution. Being told that the thief usually took the lead; 'Well, then,' said the Chancellor, 'let the Doctors in Law have the precedence, and let Doctors in Medicine be next in rank.'

Pro Aris et Focis.

At the establishment of volunteer corps, a certain corporation agreed to form a body, on condition that they should *not be obliged to quit the country*. The proposal was submitted to Mr. Pitt: who said he had no objection to the terms, if they would permit him to add, '*except in case of invasion*.'

Parish Learning.

On examining the parish accounts in a village in Staffordshire, the three following curiosities appeared: One of the overseers had made *sixty-three* weeks in the year; an *item* in the other overseer's accounts, was for money paid in aid of the *country rats*; this caused much laughter, in which none joined more heartily than the constable; who immediately afterwards produced his accounts, in which was a charge for holding a *conquest* over a man found dead.

Calumny.

George the Third once said to Sir J. Irwin, a famous *bon-vivant*, 'They tell me, Sir John, you love a *glass* of wine.' 'Those, sirc, who have so reported me to your majesty,' answered he, bowing profoundly, 'do me great injustice; they should have said—a *bottle*!'

Suicide Prevented.

A French cobbler had resolved to commit suicide, and to make his exit the more heroic, prepared the following memorial in writing: 'I follow the lesson of a great master, and as Molière says,

' "When all is lost, and even hope is fled." ' He had just written thus far, and applied the

fatal instrument to the carotid artery, when suddenly recollecting, he stopped, and cried to himself, 'Eh! but is it Molière who says so? I must make sure—if not I shall be laughed at.' He now got Molière, read a few comedies, and returned to his usual occupation of mending shoes.

Lord Clonmel.

The late Lord Clonmel, who never thought of demanding more than a shilling for an affidavit, used to be well satisfied, provided it was a *good one*. In his time the Birmingham shillings were current, and he used the following extraordinary precautions to avoid being imposed upon by taking a bad one: 'You shall true answer make to such questions as shall be demanded of you touching this affidavit, so help you God! *Is this a good shilling?* Are the contents of this affidavit true? Is this your name and hand-writing?'

Honest Tar.

A seaman rather badly *rigged*, applied to an officer of the *Superb*, to be entered on the ship's books. The lieutenant observing his ragged appearance, said, that he would not do. 'I hope,' returned Jack, with the characteristic simplicity of a British tar, 'that your honour will not condemn the hull for the sake of the rigging.' This reply excited the attention of the officer, and the weather-beaten tar being sent below for a good meal and new *rigging*, turned out to be one of the best seamen in the ship.

Grand Cure for the Toothache.

A man some time ago entered into a coffee-house at Vienna, with his hand pressed close to his cheek, groaning, stamping, and exhibiting every symptom of violent indisposition. He took a seat, called for some punch, and made useless efforts to swallow it. Several people collected round him, and inquired the cause of his illness; he replied, that he was tormented by a violent fit of the toothache, which resisted every remedy. Various things were prescribed for him, but without effect. At length a man who was playing at billiards in an adjoining room, stepped forward, and said, 'Allow me to prescribe for the gentleman; I possess a remedy which I am certain will cure him in five minutes.' He drew from his pocket a box, filled with small chips of a yellow kind of wood. 'Here, sir,' said he, 'apply this to your tooth.' The patient did as he was directed, and to the astonishment of everyone present, he immediately experienced a diminution of pain; the remedy operated as if by enchantment, and in less than a quarter of an hour he was completely relieved, and drank his bowl of punch to the health of his deliverer. 'Sir,' said he, 'you have performed a most wonderful cure, and I

shall be eternally grateful to you, if you will inform me where your valuable remedy can be purchased.' 'Nowhere,' replied the billiard player: 'I procured it during my last visit to South America, and brought it home with me for my own private use; the Indians of *Oya Poc* never use any other remedy.' 'Well, surely you will not refuse to let me have a few pieces of the wood.' 'Impossible.' 'I only ask for twenty pieces, and I will give you a ducat for each.' 'Well, I consent out of pure humanity; but mind, you are the only person to whom I can grant such a favour.' Everyone present now wished to have some portion of the divine wood of *Oya Poc*; all were subject to the toothache; all claimed the sacred rights of humanity, and the compassionate traveller was obliged to part with nearly all his chips of wood, and to fill his box with ducats. The master of the coffee-house himself, unwilling to suffer such an opportunity to escape him, had the good fortune to purchase ten pieces. When occasion came for putting the virtue of the wonderful wood to the test, however, it was soon found that it had none of those effects on the good people of Vienna, which it had on the savages of *Oya Poc*. Had it lost its virtues by carriage and keeping? So the happy few who had got bits of the rarity insisted; for, as usual, the greatly hoaxed were the last to acknowledge the ingenuity by which they had been fooled and cheated.

Covering a Defeat.

A M. Gaubier brought out in 1753, at the Italian Theatre, Paris, a piece called *Brioche*; or, *the Origin of Puppets*, which happened not to succeed. The unfortunate author was pertly asked, how he could think of venturing such a thing on the stage? 'Oh!' he replied, 'the wits of Paris had all, one after another, quite *ennuyed* me; and I chose this way of assembling them together, and taking my revenge on them in a body.'

Electioneering.

The late John Ellis, Esq., who was termed 'a violent party man,' was employed as an agent in an election which was not only strongly contested on the spot, but, on the ground of some irregularity, brought by petition before the House of Commons. To the bar of the House Mr. Ellis was brought, on the part of the petitioning candidate, when he underwent a cross examination, of which the following is the substance:—

'We understand, Mr. Ellis, that a very considerable sum was expended in this election, and that great part of it was directed to the purpose of corrupting the voters. Do you know of any such application of money, or of any bribes being actually accepted on the part of the electors?' 'Indeed, sir, I do, as agent. I know that *our party* bribed all that we could get to accept our money!' At this acknow-

gment, a pause of astonishment seemed to invade the house; a murmur succeeded, which only subsided on a member's saying to the witness, 'Your party did not carry the action?' 'No,' returned Ellis, with great composure, 'we did not.' 'Well, but, Mr. Ellis,' said the first querist, 'is it not extraordinary, as you say you bribed all that would see your money, that you did not return our member?' 'Not in the least,' said Ellis. 'So! why how do you account for it?' 'Easily; the opposite party *out-bribed us!*' At this there was an universal burst of laughter. 'I will not ask you any more questions, Mr. Ellis,' said the interrogator, with great indignation.

Inclination.

A German prince pursuing in great haste a beautiful lady at court—'Your highness runs very fast,' observed the lady. 'I am only owing my inclination,' was the reply.

Epitaphs.

The satirist Piron having been refused admission into the French Academy, took a priest's revenge upon them in his last will, which commenced in these terms:—'I recommend myself to posterity. I hope more from indulgence, than from that of my contemporaries. As I have always shunned vain glory, and fear lest the hand of some friend or my should disfigure my tomb with a fulsome or malicious epitaph, I desire that the following shall be engraved on it:—

Ci-git PIRON, qui ne fut rien,
Pas même Académicien!

Here lies PIRON, who was nothing,
Not even an Academician!

the following imitation of this amusing parody of scandal, appeared some time ago in *Journal des Debats*:—

To the Editor.—Sir, Ill, in pain, and feeling my end approach, I have thought it right to make my epitaph, in order to spare my friends the labour, and above all, the embarrassment of making it for me. Have the goodness, I beg, to give it a place in your paper. It is not very poetical; but if my extreme age has not destroyed my judgment, I think it has at least common sense. Here it is—
Ne carietur.

Ci-git qui fit des Vers, les fit mal, et ne put, moi qu'il fut sans esprit, être de l'Institut.
'VIGEE.'

IMITATION.

Here lies a poor Poet: his verses were flat; and yet he the Institute miss'd, for all that.

Valuing Beauty.

The Persian Ambassador, Mirza Aboul Hasan, while he resided in Paris, was an object of so much curiosity, that he could not go

out without being surrounded by a multitude of gazers, and the ladies even ventured so far as to penetrate his hotel.

On returning one day from a ride, he found his apartments crowded with ladies, all elegantly dressed, but not all equally beautiful. Astonished at this unexpected assemblage, he inquired what these European odalisques could possibly want with him. The interpreter replied, that they had come to look at his excellency. The ambassador was surprised to find himself an object of curiosity among a people who boast of having attained the acmé of civilization; and was not a little offended at conduct which, in Asia, would have been considered an unwarrantable breach of good breeding; he accordingly revenged himself by the following little scheme:—

The illustrious foreigner affected to be charmed with the ladies; he looked at them attentively, alternately pointing to them with his finger, and speaking with great earnestness to his interpreter, who he was well aware would be questioned by his fair visitants; and whom he therefore instructed in the part he was to act. Accordingly the eldest of the ladies, who in spite of her age, probably thought herself the prettiest of the whole party, and whose curiosity was particularly excited, after his excellency had passed through the suite of rooms, coolly inquired what had been the object of his examination? 'Madam,' replied the interpreter, 'I dare not inform you.' 'But I wish particularly to know, sir.' 'Indeed, madam, it is impossible!' 'Nay, sir, this reserve is vexatious; I desire to know.' 'Oh! since you desire, madam, know then that his excellency has been valuing you!' 'Valuing us! how, sir?' 'Yes, ladies, his excellency, after the custom of his country, has been setting a price upon each of you!' 'Well, that's whimsical enough; and how much may that lady be worth, according to his estimation?' 'A thousand crowns.' 'And the other?' 'Five hundred crowns.' 'And that young lady with fair hair?' 'Three hundred crowns.' 'And that Brunette?' 'The same price.' 'And that lady who is painted?' 'Fifty crowns.' 'And pray, sir, what may I be worth in the tariff of his excellency's good graces?' 'Oh, madam, you really must excuse me, I beg.' 'Come, come, no concealments.' 'The prince merely said as he passed you—' 'Well, what did he say?' inquired the lady with great eagerness. 'He said, madam, that he did not know the small coin of this country.'

A Peaceful Monarch.

The weak effort of James I., the most peaceful monarch that ever swayed the English sceptre, to recover the Palatinate which had been wrested from his son-in-law, who had been elected King of Bohemia, was much ridiculed on the stage in Flanders; a messenger was represented coming in haste, in a comedy, bringing news that the Palatinate was likely to have a formidable army on foot

shortly, for the King of Denmark would furnish him with a hundred thousand pickled herrings; the Hollanders with a hundred thousand butter-boxes; and England with a hundred thousand *ambassadors*. In pictures the king was no less severely treated; in one place he was represented with a scabbard without a sword, in another with a sword, which no one could pull out, though numbers stood pulling at it. At Brussels, they painted him with his pockets hanging out, and never a penny in them, nor in his purse, which was also turned inside out. In Antwerp, they pictured the Queen of Bohemia like a poor beggar, with her hair hanging about her ears, and her child at her back; while the king, her father, carried the cradle after her; and every one of these pictures had several mottoes, filled with the most ridiculous expressions.

Whitbread's Entire.

On the approach of the election at Westminster, when Earl Percy was returned, Mr. Dennis O'Brien, the agent of Mr. Sheridan, said, 'that there were thousands in Westminster who would sooner vote for the Duke of Northumberland's porter, than give their support to a man of talent and probity, like Mr. Sheridan.' Mr. Whitbread, alarmed for the interests of Mr. S. by the intemperate language of his agent, wished him to take some public notice of it in the way of censure; but Sheridan only observed, 'that to be sure his friend O'Brien was wrong and intemperate, as far as related to the Duke of Northumberland's porter; though he had no doubt there were thousands in Westminster who would give the preference to Mr. Whitbread's ENTIRE.'

The Dog Tax.

The descriptive powers of Sheridan were employed very happily on a motion made in the House of Commons, for a tax upon dogs, which he criticised in a strain of humour that was irresistible. In regard to the bill itself, he said, that he never met with one more extraordinarily worded; and the folly of it extended even to the title; for instead of being designated, 'a tax bill,' it was called, 'a bill for the better protection of the persons and property of his majesty's subjects, against the evil arising from the increase of dogs, by subjecting the keeping, or having such dogs, to a duty.' So that instead of supposing, as had generally been the case, that dogs were better than watchmen, for the protection of property, people might be led to imagine that dogs were guilty of all the burglaries usually committed. In the preamble also, there was the same species of phraseology; for it begins, 'Whereas, many dangers, accidents, and inconveniences, (which to be sure was a beautiful climax) had happened to the cattle and other property of his majesty's subjects.' Now he had never before heard of any particular accidents happening to property from

the hydrophobia, except in the case of cattle. In the *Adventurer*, indeed, he remembered a whimsical sort of account of a dog that bit a hog in the streets; the hog bit a farmer, and the farmer bit a cow; but what was more extraordinary, each conveyed his peculiar quality to the other; for the hog barked like a dog, the farmer grunted like a hog, and the cow did her best to talk like the farmer. Something like this disposition, he supposed, must have been in inanimate things also, by the honourable gentleman's looking so carefully after property; for unless an instance had occurred, of furniture behaving in a disorderly manner, or a dumb waiter's barking in consequence of hydrophobia, he conceived such a phrase could not have been introduced.'

The sarcastic humour of Sheridan prevailed, and the bill was rejected.

Ingratitude Rebuked.

A Frenchman of title, who had subsisted upwards of twelve months on the bounty of the English, happened to sail to the continent in the same vessel with an English lady and a number of other passengers, to whom he soon began to declaim in the most outrageous terms, against the grossness and rudeness of the English. He affirmed among other things, that they were so regardless of cleanliness, as not to make use of napkins at table. The lady, stung with the ingratitude of the exile, observed, 'that her country-folks formerly had napkins, but that they had lately made them into shirts for the French emigrants.'

Good Sense.

A very ignorant person being complimented on his good sense, in presence of a clever lady, she said, 'I don't wonder at his possessing a large stock of good sense; he never spends any.'

Garrow.

During the earlier years of Mr. (now Sir William) Garrow's practice at the bar, his clients were almost wholly of that respectable class of individuals, on whom the Old Bailey depends for celebrity, and whom the late Dr. Porson used classically to designate by the appellation of the Gentlemen of the Fur Trade. After devoting for ten years his unrivalled talents at confounding truth to the extrication and salvation of the *bankrupt* members of this fraternity, the learned counsel happened, by some accident, to be employed for a *creditor*, or more plainly speaking, for the prosecutor of a *fur* merchant. The *transfer* of the goods was proved by two most veritable witnesses; but the defendant produced a first-rate *character* man to prove, that they could not possibly have come into his hands, because he was a hundred miles out of the way. Mr. Garrow feeling that if this man was believed,

is ease must break under him, set about impeaching his credibility, by asking, 'Now, r, upon the oath have taken, will you swear that for these ten years past you have been employed by an *honest* man?' Mr. Fielding (descendant of the celebrated Fielding), who was counsel for the prisoner, stopped the witness in his answer by observing dryly, 'The best way for the witness to answer that question, is to put it to the learned gentleman himself.'

Mystical Funning.

A preacher of the name of Ker, on being ducted into a church in Teviotdale, told the people the relation that was to be between him and them in the following words: 'Sirs, I am come to be your shepherd, and you must be my sheep, and the Bible will be my tartan, for I will mark you with it;' and laying his hand on the clerk, or precentor's head, he said, 'Andrew, you shall be my dog.' 'The fellow row a bit of your dog will I be,' said Andrew. 'O Andrew, I speak mystically,' said the preacher. 'Yea, but you speak mischievously,' said Andrew.

Light and Shade.

A citizen, whom industrious habits had advanced to a country house, walking one hot day in his garden, caught the gardener asleep under a tree. He scolded him soundly for laziness, and ended by telling him that such a sluggard was not worthy to enjoy the light of the sun. 'It was for that reason, exactly,' said the gardener, 'that I crept into shade.'

Voltaire and Frederick the Great.

During the time Voltaire was resident with the King of Prussia at Potsdam, an Englishman happened to be there, who told the king that he could retain, word for word, any discourse of considerable length, after having never read or heard it. Frederick resolved to put him to the proof, and the Englishman made good his assertion.

Voltaire happened at this moment to be present. He came to read to the king a copy of verses he had just written. Frederick, to amuse himself, concealed the Englishman in an adjoining closet, and ordered him to repeat, word for word, what Voltaire should say to him. The poet was introduced, and read his verses. The king listened to them with an apparent coolness, and said, 'Indeed, dear Voltaire, I cannot conceive what you are about, since you sometimes take the verses of others, and pass them off for your own!' Voltaire protested that the verses were his own, and that he had only that moment remembered them. 'Well,' said the king, 'however that may be, I have just seen an Englishman, who has repeated them to me as his own

writing.' Frederick ordered the Englishman to be called in, and desired him to recite the verses he had shown him that morning. The Englishman immediately repeated the lines of the poet, without the variation of a word. Voltaire flew into a passion, and declared that the gentleman must deal with the d—l. The king for some time amused himself with the poet's anger, but at last let him into the secret; when the Englishman was dismissed, with a proper recompense for the pleasure he had afforded the monarch.

Telling Wonders.

A person had been relating many incredible stories, when Professor Engel, who was present, in order to repress his impertinence, said, 'But, gentlemen, all this amounts to very little, when I can assure you that the celebrated organist, Abbé Vogler, once imitated a thunderstorm so well, that for miles round all the milk turned sour.'

Pious Sign.

On the high road leading to Pappenburgh, is a public-house, called Nobis Inn, from its founder, a man of the name of Nobis. After having experienced and overcome a great many difficulties from his neighbours, he had the following inscription added to the sign of the house: 'Si deus pro Nobis, quo contra Nobis.'

Great Names.

The inhabitants of St. Johanna, among other whimsical customs, have one which seldom fails to excite the astonishment of the younger navigator. They beg an English name of the sailors who touch at their island, and of course, names of the greatest eminence are freely given by our tars. Thus when they come to visit ships which stop at the island, it has happened that Charles Fox has humbly solicited the washing of linen, and the Prince of Wales requested a preference for his vegetables; Mr. Pitt has been detected stealing a blanket; while the Duke of Bedford has been known to beg for an old nail.

Curran.

Mr. Curran was once asked what an Irish gentleman, just arrived in England, could mean by perpetually putting out his tongue. 'I suppose,' replied the wit, 'he's trying to catch the English accent.'

Shakspeare.

Shakspeare was performing the part of a king in one of his own tragedies, before Queen Elizabeth, who wishing to know whether he would depart from the dignity of the sovereign, dropped her handkerchief on the stage, as if

by accident; on which the mimic monarch immediately exclaimed—

‘But ere this be done,
Take up our sister’s handkerchief.’

This presence of mind in the poet, and his close attention to the business of the scene, is said to have pleased the queen very much.

Imperial Bon Mot.

The public gaming tables at the rooms in Spa were in 1779 suspended for a day, in compliment to the Emperor of Germany, who was paying it a visit, and whose aversion to gambling was well known. With this suspension he seemed much pleased, and said to an English gentleman who had been presented to him, ‘It seems I come here like *Moses*, to put a stop to *Pharo*-ah!’

Two Negatives Make a Positive.

Mr. Pitt was remarkable for giving his opinions with great positiveness. At a cabinet dinner, he was once expatiating on the beauties of the Latin language: and as an argument in favour of the superiority which he affirmed it had over the English, he said that two negatives made a thing more positive than one affirmative possibly could do. ‘Ah! then,’ said Lord Thurlow, ‘your father and mother must have been two negatives to have made such a positive fellow as you are.’

Republican Offices.

The following articles, copied from two United States papers, present the singular novelties of a candidate for the legislature, who cannot write his name, and a difficulty of procuring any person to fill the office of judge:—

‘*Mr. Printer*.—Please to insert in your *Indiana Register*, that I stand a candidate, in opposition to Colonel Paxton and W. Todd, for the legislature.

his
‘ABRAHAM X MILLER.’
mark.

‘*Raleigh, North Carolina, July 24, 1816*.—The Executive Council have been notified to meet in this city, on the 10th of next month, for the purpose of making the third attempt to *beg* some gentleman of respectable standing at the bar, to accept of the office of judge of the highest court in our state!’—*Salem Gazette*.

Preferment.

Among the daily inquirers after the health of an aged Bishop of D—m during his indisposition, no one was more sedulously punctual than the Bishop of E—r; and the invalid seemed to think that other motives than that of anxious kindness might contri-

bute to this solicitude. One morning he ordered the messenger to be shown into his room, and thus addressed him:—‘Be so good as present my compliments to my Lord Bishop, and tell him that I am better, much better; but that the Bishop of W—r has got a sore throat, arising from a bad cold, *if that will do*.’

Royal Inn.

When the Emperor Joseph II. visited Russia he positively refused to take up his abode in the imperial palaces. It happened at that time that there was no inn at Zarskoj-eseslo. In this dilemma Catherine II. caused a sign to be put up before a very pretty house belonging to her gardener. Upon this sign a spinning-wheel was painted, with the Russian inscription, ‘Catherine’s Spinning-Wheel;’ at the bottom stood, in German characters, ‘Falkestein.’ The emperor put up at this house, and had not the slightest suspicion of this ingenious device; nor was it until long after that he learned the trick that had been put upon him.

To be on One’s Legs Again.

A wealthy merchant who had become bankrupt was met some time after his misfortune by a friend, who asked him how he was going on? ‘Pretty well,’ said he, ‘I am upon my legs again.’ ‘How! already?’ ‘Yes, I have been obliged to part with my coach and horses, and must now walk.’

Old Times Back Again.

After the abdication of Bonaparte, in 1814, it was observed at a fashionable party in Paris that things were to be restored to the same state in which they were previous to the Revolution. ‘Oh! I am delighted to hear that,’ exclaimed a lady who was no longer in the bloom of youth, ‘for then I shall be only eighteen years of age.’

Dr. Herschell.

One morning a countryman knocked at the door of Dr. Herschell, and requested the favour of a few words with him. The doctor went to the hall, when the countryman said to him, ‘I ask pardon, doctor, for disturbing you, but I am quite in a quandary, as the saying is, and so I made free to call and ask your advice; you must know, my meadows are a great deal too long for cutting; but before I begin I should like to know whether you think the weather will soon take up?’ ‘First look round,’ said the doctor, ‘and tell me what you see?’ ‘See,’ repeated the countryman, ‘why, hay that is not worth the saving; what dunderhead owns it, that lives so near you, and cuts it without asking your advice?’ ‘I am the dunderhead,’ said the doctor, and had it cut the very day before the rain come on.’

Learned General.

A Prussian general in the time of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, being commissioned by his master to purchase certain maps, went to a print-seller's shop for that purpose. 'Sir,' said the shopkeeper, 'do you want provincial maps, or general ones?' 'What?' replied the general. 'don't you see the plume in my hat, it does not that inform you that I am a general?' 'Would you give me the maps of an officer or a lieutenant?'

Gone Out.

A person calling one day on a gentleman at the west end of the town, where his visits were more frequent than welcome, was told the servant that her master had gone out. 'Oh, well, never mind, I'll speak to your mistress.' 'She's also gone out, sir.' The gentleman, not willing to be denied admission, as it was a cold day, he would step in and sit down by the fire a few minutes. 'Ah! but it is *gone out* too,' replied the girl.

Fop.

A person was remonstrating with a friend on the absurdity of following foppish fashions. 'They are really contemptible,' said the fop, 'and I am sure all who see you must think you ridiculous.' 'I don't value the opinion of the world,' answered the irritated person; 'I laugh at all those who think me ridiculous.' 'Then you must be the merriest of men alive,' was the reply.

Peter Pindar.

Mr. Wolcott, better known by the name of Peter Pindar, was always a welcome guest at the house of a very worthy family, some years since resident in ——— Place; but, being in the habit of keeping late hours, he sometimes annoyed them by his unreasonably protracted sittings; and having one evening returned to a friendly remonstrance on the subject, 'Well, if I *live*, go at eleven in future;' he loosely answered by the young lady who attended the economy of the house, 'No, she should certainly send him off, *dead* or *alive*, if he attempted to transgress again.' The day the young ladies received from him the following lines, which, from their playful allusion, and the allusion to his foible, are very characteristic of the facetious bard:—

Tell me sweet girls, of ——— Place,
If at the opera or the play,
You mean this night to add a grace,
And steal a heart or two away?
If not, I sip my tea with you at seven,
Dead or alive, I'll leave you at eleven.'

About this time a little compact was entered into by which a servant of the house was permitted to bring the doctor's hat and cane into the parlour on the clock striking eleven, as a signal for his departure. But the doctor was remarkable for his convivial powers, par-

ticularly for his humorous stories; and it happened not many evenings after that the clock struck the hour in the middle of one of his best tales, the servant's usual summons was omitted, which the doctor no sooner observed, than he exultingly declared the treaty broken, and followed up his declaration by nearly sitting out the night.

Dryden.

Dryden was once bantered by a young nobleman, for having, in one of his tragedies, made Cleomenes do little to advance his love, when he had an interview with his mistress. 'For my part,' said he, 'when I am with a pretty girl, I always make good use of my time.' 'Yes,' replied the poet, 'but nobody mistakes your lordship for a *hero*.'

Want of Point, a Nice Point.

An ingenious expedient was devised to save a prisoner charged with robbery, in the Criminal Court at Dublin. The principal thing that appeared in evidence against him was a confession, alleged to have been made by him at the police-office, and taken down in writing by a police officer. The document, purporting to contain this self-criminating acknowledgment, was produced by the officer, and the following passage was read from it:—

'Mangan said he never robbed but twice,
Said it was Crawford.'

This it will be observed has no mark of the writer's having any notion of punctuation, but the meaning he attached to it was, that

'Mangan said he never robbed but twice:
Said it was Crawford.'

Mr. O'Gorman, the counsel for the prisoner, begged to look at the paper. He perused it, and rather astonished the peace officer by asserting, that so far from its proving the man's guilt, it clearly established his innocence. 'This,' said the learned gentleman, 'is the fair and obvious reading of the sentence:—

'Mangan said he never robbed;
But twice said it was Crawford.'

This interpretation had its effect on the jury, and the man was acquitted.

Provoking Necessity.

A sporting gentleman was once so incensed at his huntsman in the field, that he discharged him instantly on the spot. The next morning, when the gentleman was going out with his hounds, the voice of his huntsman saluted his ears, who began, from a tree where the man had perched himself, hallooing to the dogs, until not one of them would stir. What was to be done? The gentleman wished to hunt, but there was no hunting without hounds; and there was no stopping

the man's mouth; so that, at last, he was compelled to make the best of a bad bargain, and take the fellow down from the tree into his service again.

Despotism.

Mr. Dodwell, in his tour through Greece, mentions his having been hospitably entertained at Ampelakia, by a Greek merchant of the name of Papatheodoro, who lived under a protection from Ali Pasha, which exempted him from all extraordinary contributions. It began in the true Oriental style thus:—'We, the Grand Vizier of Ali Pasha, declare that Papatheodoro of Ampelakia, shall neither be stung by the flies nor bitten by the serpent.'

News.

A news-loving woman was one evening entertaining her husband with a copious detail of a most wonderful event that had occurred somewhere, and which, she said, she verily believed, having had it from her neighbour, who never told a lie in her life. The husband, however, expressed some doubts about the matter; which so highly exasperated his wife, that she passionately exclaimed, 'There never was on the face of this earth such a provoking, *cridellerous* man as you are; I verily believe, that were you to hear me swear that I was dead, you would not believe me.' The patient husband calmly replied, 'Indeed, Kitty, I had rather hear anyone swear that than you.'

Franklin.

Dr. Franklin, Sir Joshua Banks, Dr. Lettson, Lord Loughborough, and Dr. Solander, once went in a party to Spithead, to try the experiment of smoothing the water with oil. A laughable scene took place between Dr. Franklin and an officer on board the ship, on the properties of thunder and lightning. The officer continually contradicted the doctor with saying, 'Sir, you are quite wrong in your opinion; Dr. Franklin says so and so; the doctor and you are quite contrary in your ideas. I never will allow, sir, that Dr. F. is wrong. No, sir; I am sure he is right, and you are wrong, begging your pardon.' The doctor never altered a feature of his countenance during the conversation; while all the company enjoyed a laugh except the disputants.

Piron.

The French wit, Alexis Piron, was in the habit of retiring every morning to muse at his ease in the Bois de Boulogne, and he would sometimes remain until the evening. One day having missed his path, he found himself so fatigued on coming out of the wood, that he was obliged to rest himself upon a bench attached to one of the pillars of

the Conference gate. Scarcely was he seated when on the right hand and on the left, he was saluted by all the passengers either coming in or going out, on foot, on horseback, or in carriages. He raised his hat more or less to each, according to their apparent quality. 'Surely,' thought he to himself, 'surely I am much more known than I supposed. Oh! that Mr. A***, before whom I almost prostrated myself this morning, without his deigning to answer me but by a slight nod of the head! Oh, that he were now here to witness the respect that is shown me!' While he made these reflections, the crowd passed in so quick succession, that at last the exercise of the hat became fatiguing. He took it entirely off, and contented himself with bowing to all that saluted him. Suddenly an old woman cast herself on her knees before him, with her hands clasped together. 'Rise, my good woman,' said he, astonished, and wondering what this could mean, 'rise, you treat me as you would a maker of Epic poems or tragedies, but you are deceived; I have never yet arrived at that honour; as yet I have never risen above a song or an epigram.' But the old woman still continuing on her knees, without seeming to hear him, Piron thought he saw her lips move, and supposed she was speaking to him. He leaned forward and listened. He did indeed hear her mutter something; it was an *Ave*, addressed to an image of the Virgin, placed directly over his head. It was then, upon raising his eyes, he discovered the true object of all the salutations which he had believed were directed to himself.

Abyssinian Mimic.

Mr. Salt, in his 'Voyage to Abyssinia,' relates the following curious anecdote of Tote Mâze, the Abyssinian jester and mimic. 'One specimen of his talent consisted in the imitation of the behaviour of a chief in battle, who had not been remarkable for his courage. At first he came in very pompously, calling out in an overbearing manner to his soldiers, and vaunting what he would do when the enemy approached. He then mimicked the sound of horns, heard from a distance, and the low beating of a drum. At hearing this he represented the chief as beginning to be a little cautious, and to ask questions of those around him, whether they thought the enemy were strong? This alarm he continued to heighten as the enemy advanced, until at last he depicted the hero as nearly overcome by his fears; the musket trembling in his hand, his heart panting, and his eyes completely fixed: while, without appearing to be conscious of it, his legs began to make a very prudent retreat. This part of his acting excited among the spectators a due share of contempt, when dexterously laying hold of the circumstance, he affected to be ashamed of his cowardice, mustered up his whole stock of courage, and advanced, firing his matchlock

at the same moment in a direction exactly contrary to that in which the enemy was supposed to stand; when, apparently frightened by the noise of his own gun, he sank down on his knees and begged for mercy; during this scene, the expression of his face was imitable, and the whole of the spectators burst out to a shout of admiration.'

Sir Francis Delaval.

Once when Sir Francis Delaval stood for the borough of Andover, an opposition took place, and the corporation was so closely divided, that it was nearly a drawn battle between him and his competitors. One sturdy fellow among the voters held out against all applications: he declared he would vote for neither of the contending candidates. Sir Francis paid him a visit, and with much address endeavoured to discover some means of winning him. Sir Francis knew that the man was unassailable by plain bribery; he therefore tried to tempt his ambition, his love of pleasure, his curiosity, in short, every passion that he thought could actuate this obstinate voter. Sir Francis found, that all the public spectacles of London were familiar to this man, who had often gone to town, on purpose to see various exhibitions. This seemed to have been his favourite relaxation. He had made many attempts. Sir Francis at last discovered, that this odd mortal had never seen a fire-eater, and that he did not believe the wonderful stories he had heard of fire-eaters; he could it, he said, be imagined, that any man could vomit smoke, and flame, and fire from his mouth, like a volcano. Sir Francis proposed to carry him immediately to town, to show him the most accomplished eater there that had ever appeared. The wary fellow of Andover suspected some trick, and declined by no means be prevailed upon to go up town. Our staunch candidate, never at a loss for a resource, despatched instantly a trusty servant to London, requesting the celebrated Angelo to come to his assistance. Among various accomplishments, Angelo possessed the art of fire-eating in the utmost perfection; and though no pecuniary consideration could have induced him to make a display of his talents in such an art, yet to oblige Sir Francis, to whom all his friends were enthusiastically devoted, Angelo complied. A few hours after he received the request, he thundered into Andover in a chaise four, express, to eat fire for Sir Francis Delaval's friend! When the obdurate voter saw his gentleman come down, and with such a retinue, on purpose to entertain him, he was not to yield. But when Angelo filled his mouth with torrents of flame, that burst from his nostrils, and seemed to issue even from his eyes; when these flames changed to various colours, and seemed continually to increase even in volume and intensity, our candidate was quite melted: he implored Angelo to stop no farther hazard; he confessed 'that he did not think the devil himself could cast

out such torrents of fire and flame, and that he believed Sir Francis had his Satanic Majesty for his friend, otherwise he never could have prevailed upon him to break the vow which he had made not to vote for him.'

Ceremony.

A respectable man, an inhabitant of Frankfort, came to Count Torrano to complain to him of the number of soldiers who were quartered upon him. The count being a Frenchman, his interpreter offered his services to the Frankforter; but the latter did not conceive that he required them. He presented himself before the count, and with a low bow accosted him as his *Excellency*. The count returned the bow, and also the *Excellency*. Surprised at the honour which was paid to him, the Frankforter now began to think that he had not made use of a title high enough; and therefore with a still lower bow, said, *Monsieur*. 'Sir,' said the count very seriously, 'we will not go any farther, as we shall probably get as far as your *Majesty*. The Frankforter was thrown into great embarrassment; which the count perceiving, he continued in a jocular tone, 'What is your name, sir?' 'My name is Spangenberg.' 'And mine is Torrano,' said the count. 'Now, Spangenberg, what is your business with Torrano? Be seated, and we shall soon despatch it.'

Garrick's Brother.

George Garrick, the brother of the celebrated Roscius, was particularly attentive to him; and every night on coming behind the scenes, usually inquired, 'Has David wanted me?' On its being asked, how George came to die so soon after the demise of his distinguished relative, it was answered, 'David wanted him.'

Selden.

When the learned John Selden was a member of the famous assembly of divines at Westminster, who were appointed to new model religion, he used to delight in puzzling them with curious quibbles. In one of these debates, these venerable sages were very gravely employed in determining the distance between Jerusalem and Jericho; and one of the brethren, to prove that it could be but a short distance, observed, 'That *fish* was carried from one place to the other.' On which Mr. Selden said, 'Perhaps it was *salt* fish.' This remark threw the determination again into uncertainty.

Like Doctor, like Patient.

A very eminent physician happened to be sent for one evening, after having indulged at a convivial meeting; so that by the time he had been whirled to his patient's door, he was very ill-qualified to decide in a case of diffi-

culty. Having made shift to reach the drawing-room, and seeing a lady extended on a sofa, assisted by a female attendant, he by a sort of mechanical impulse seized her hand; but finding himself utterly unable to form an opinion on the case, he exclaimed, 'Drunk! drunk, upon my honour!' (meaning that *he* was in that unfit state) and immediately made the best retreat he was able. Feeling rather awkwardly at this adventure, he was not impatient to renew his visit; but being sent for on some other occasion, he took courage, and was preparing an apology, when the lady presently removed his apprehensions, by whispering in his ear—'My dear doctor, how could you find out my case so immediately the other evening? It was certainly a great proof of your skill: but pray not a word more on the subject.' The doctor thus added to his repute by a circumstance which might have endangered that of a less fortunate man.

Memory.

A player being reproached by Rich, for having forgot some of the words in the *Beggar's Opera* on the fifty-third night of its performance, cried out, 'What, do you think one can remember a thing for ever?'

Bon Mot.

Shortly after his late majesty's recovery in 1789, he happened one day, when riding out on horseback, to meet Lord Fife, on seeing whom he exclaimed, 'There comes a man who is neither gambler nor rat!' His lordship replied, 'Your majesty is mistaken; I am the greatest gamester on earth; *for my all is on that horse.*'

Honest Motto.

Persons who retire from trade are generally eager, from a false shame, to conceal the mode by which they acquired their wealth. An honourable exception to this occurred in the case of Mr. Gillespie, a tobacconist in the city of Edinburgh. Having acquired an ample fortune by the sale of snuff at the end of the American war, he set up a carriage; and lest the public, or himself, might forget how he had acquired the means of keeping one, to arms of three snuff-boxes rampant, he added the following doggrel couplet as a motto:—

'Who would have thought it,
That noses could have bought it.'

Shut the Door.

Among the peculiarities of Dr. Burney, were two of a very innocent kind; the first was the possession of wine of the best vintage; the next, the dread of a current of air. 'Shut the door,' was the first salutation uttered by him to any one who entered his apartment; and but few of his associates ever neglected

the rule. This custom did not abandon him on the most trying occasions: for having been robbed while returning home one evening in his carriage along the Greenwich road, by a couple of footpads, who were more eager in obtaining his money than contributing to his comfort, he called them back in a peremptory tone: and while they were wondering at what he wanted with them, he exclaimed in his usual manner, and with his own peculiar emphasis, 'Shut the door.' A voice accustomed to command produced the desired effect, and he was instantly obeyed.

Charles James Fox.

After Byron's engagement in the West Indies, there was a great clamour about the badness of ammunition. Soon after this Mr. Fox had a duel with Mr. Adam. On receiving that gentleman's ball, and finding it had made but little impression, he exclaimed, 'Egad, Adam, it had been all over with me, if you had not charged with *government powder!*'

Physician and Clergyman.

A clergyman and a physician lived in the same village, on terms of great intimacy. The former was attacked by a violent fit of the gout, and the latter attended his reverend friend *gratuitously*, with unabating success.

The medical gentleman soon after called upon his neighbour, the parson, to perform the matrimonial service; and the call was promptly and cheerfully obeyed.

The clergyman took an early opportunity of withdrawing himself from the assembled company, alone and unobserved: but he was soon followed to his home by a brother of the physician, requesting his acceptance of a roleau of guineas as a marriage fee. The divine retired for two minutes to his study, and returned the roleau to the bearer, with a note containing the following

IMPROMPTU.

To the doctor, the parson's a sort of a brother!
And a good turn from one, deserves one of the other,

So take back your guineas, dear doctor,
again;

Nor give—what you so well can remedy—
pain.

Permit me to wish you all joy and delight
On th' occasion that brought us together to-night.

May health, fame, and wealth, attend you
thro' life,

And every day add to the bliss of your *wife.*

Advantage of Learning.

A gentleman telling Dr. Johnson that he had seen the learned pig, expressed himself astonished at his performances; but at the same time sorry to consider the stripes which the animal must have suffered before he could have been taught to observe closely, and obey

lently, the signs given by his master. 'I replied Johnson, 'I think your sorrow pity are misplaced; the animal should er excite your envy; as to his stripes, ex- stripes are inflicted on the boy, it is very that the man becomes eminently learned; with regard to the pig, if you put his ent happiness in opposition to his former rings, the balance will be in his favour.' 'I not know,' replied the gentleman, at his happiness consists in; I do not see happiness that he can enjoy.' 'Not see t his happiness consists in! you astonish Is not a consciousness of superior irements happiness? Is not being the of his race happiness? But above all -sir, consider, that the pig's learning has acted his existence. Had he been illiter- he had long since been smoked into hams, I into collars of brawn, and consigned to table of some luxurious citizen, as the anion to a fillet of veal, or a Norfolk ey. Now he is visited by the philosopher the politician; by the brave and by the tiful; by the scientific and the idle. He zed at with the eye of wonder; contem- ded with the smile of approbation; and fied with the murmur of applause.

Irish Sailor.

tring the operations of the Orders in cil, an American merchantman was led by a British frigate, and a strict ination of the crew of the former was of e ordered. As the search proceeded, an nan belonging to the merchantman came rd with all the confidence imaginable, to sh his claims to a Yankee origin upon ledge derived from conversations with e-smates. 'Where were you born?' the English officer. 'In *Charleston*, your honour.' 'Charleston! where's 'It is handy on to Boston, piase your ir.' 'And do you know where Nan- is?' asked the officer. 'Och! Nance it is it you mean? I know her very well, big jade she is; but what has become I'm not able to say.' This reply brought Paddy into the long boat.

Parson Patten.

out half a century ago, Whitstable had on of the name of Patten, celebrated for at oddity, great humour, and equally extravagance. Once standing in need of wig, he went over to Canterbury, and d to a barber young in the business to him one. The tradesman, who was just to dinner, begged the honour of his new ter's company; to which Patten most consented. After dinner, a large bowl ch was produced; and the reverend with equal readiness joined in emptying hen it was out the wig-maker was dung to business, and began to handle asure; when Mr. Patten desired him st, saying, he should not make his wig.

'Why not?' exclaimed the astonished host. 'Have I done anything to offend you, sir?' 'Not in the least,' replied Patten; 'but I find you are a very honest, good-natured fellow, so I will take some one else in.'

Pride.

A Spaniard rising from a fall, whereby his nose had suffered considerably, exclaimed, 'Voto a tal, esto es caminar por la turru!' 'This comes of walking upon earth!'

Dr. Watts.

Dr. Watts was remarkable for his vivacity in conversation, although he was never forward in the display of it. Being one day in a coffee-room with some friends, he overheard a gentleman say, 'What! is that the great Dr. Watts?' The doctor, who was of low stature, turned suddenly round, and with great good humour repeated a verse from one of his lyric poems, which produced a silent admiration of his modesty and talents.

'Were I so tall to reach the pole,
Or mete the ocean with my span,
I must be measur'd by my soul;
The mind's the standard of the man.'

In Want of a Husband.

A young lady was told by a married lady, that she had better precipitate herself from off the rocks of the Passaic falls into the basin beneath, than *marry*. The young lady replied, 'I would, if I thought I should find a *husband* at the bottom.'

Attitudes.

Angelo, the graceful fencing-master, was once consulted by Bensley, the actor, on what he ought to do with his hands while he was speaking. Angelo told him, that it was impossible to prescribe what he should always do with them; but that it was easy to tell him what should not be done; 'he should not put them into his breeches pockets;' a custom to which poor Bensley was much addicted.

George Colman the Younger.

A young gentleman being pressed very hard in company to sing, even after he had solemnly assured them he could not, observed testily that they were wanting to make a *butt* of him. 'No, my good sir,' said Mr. Colman, who was present, 'we only want to get a *stave* out of you.'

A public singer having heard that Banister's good voice arose from his swallowing a large quantity of port, used to get drunk every night with that wine, but all to no purpose. Mr. Colman and Banister happened to be together when this circumstance was told, to their no small amusement. 'Ah!' said

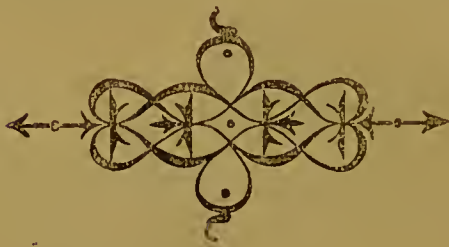
Colman, 'the poor fellow is not in the secret; he ought to swallow a *pipe* a day, and then he would *pipe well*.'

Mr. Colman was, on another occasion, rising to leave a convivial party, when he was strongly pressed to stay by the host, who remarked, that 'he must not go yet, for he was not half-primed.' 'Not half-primed!' said the wit. 'I am both *loaded* and *primed*, and if you wait an instant, you shall hear me *go off*.'

The same gentleman was once in a company of grave antiquaries, when the conversation turned on the origin of popular sayings. A gentleman present said nothing had puzzled him so much, as to ascertain the origin of the

saying, 'I'll give you a check on Aldgate pump.' Colman, who had been very silent during the whole of the dry discussions of the evening, immediately remarked, that he supposed 'it was because they used to take draughts (drafts) there.'

His present majesty, when Prince of Wales, meeting Mr. Colman at a convivial party composed of the first wits of the day, gaily observed, that there were two George the Youngers in company, 'But,' continued his Royal Highness, 'I should like to know who is George the Youngest?' 'Oh!' replied Colman, very happily, 'I could never have had the rudeness to come into the world before your Royal Highness.'



ANECDOTES OF ECCENTRICITY

Chimeras all, and more absurd or less.—DRYDEN.

Perpetual Motion Seeker.

1. STUKELEY was a gentleman of fortune bred to the law, but relinquished the profession, and retired into the country, filled with the project of discovering the perpetual motion. During a period of thirty years, he never went abroad but once, which was when he was obliged to take the oath of allegiance to King George the First; this was also the only time he changed his shirt and clothes, or shaved himself, during the whole time of his life.

Mr. Stukeley was at once the dirtiest and the cleanliest of men, washing his hands twenty times a day, but his hands only. His family consisted of two female servants, one of whom lived in the house, and the other out of it. He never had his bed made. After he relinquished the project of the perpetual motion, he devoted himself to observing the habits and economy of ants, and stocked the garden so plenteously with that insect, that the plants in the gardens were devoured by them. During the reign of Queen Anne, whenever the Duke of Marlborough opened the trenches against a city in Flanders, he broke ground at the extremity of a floor in his house, made of lime and sand, according to the custom of the country, and advanced in his approaches particularly with his pick-axe, gaining work for work, chalked out on the ground according to the intelligence in the Gazette; by which he took the town in the middle of the year at Bideford, the same day the duke was master of it in Flanders: thus every city cost him a new floor. Sterne no doubt had Mr. Stukeley in his eye, when he drew the character of My Uncle Toby.

Mr. Stukeley never sat on a chair, and when he chose to warm himself, he made a fire before the fire, into which he leapt, and sat on the floor. He snubbed no one to himself, but the heir of his estate, his brother, his sister; the first never but when he sent for him, and that very rarely; the others sometimes once a year, and sometimes seldom, when he was cheerful, talkative, and a stranger to the tittle-tattle of the town. Notwithstanding his apparent avarice, he was by

no means covetous of money; for, during his seclusion, he never received nor asked for any rent from many of his tenants; those who brought him money, he would often keep at an inn more than a week, and then pay all their expenses, and dismiss them without receiving a shilling. He lived well in his house, frequently gave to the poor, always ate from large joints of meat; never saw anything twice at table; and at Christmas divided a certain sum of money amongst the necessitous of the town. He seemed to be afraid of two things only; one, being killed for his riches; the other, being infected with disease; for which reasons he would send his maid sometimes to borrow a half crown from his neighbours, to hint he was poor; and always received the money which was paid him, in a basin of water, to prevent taking infection from those who paid him. He did not keep his money locked up, but piled it on the shelves before the plates in his kitchen. In his chamber, into which no servant had entered during the time of his remaining at home, he had two thousand guineas on the top of a low chest of drawers covered with dust, and five hundred on the floor, where it lay five-and-twenty years; this last sum a child, which he was fond of playing with, had thrown down, by oversetting a table that stood upon one foot; the table continued in the same situation also: through this money he had made two paths, by kicking the pieces on one side, one of which led from the door to the window, the other from the window to the bed. When he quitted the Temple in London, he left an old port-manteau over the portal of the ante-chamber, where it had continued many years, during which time, the chambers had passed through several hands; at length a gentleman who possessed them, ordered his servant to pull it down; it broke, being rotten, and out fell four or five hundred pieces of gold, which were found to belong to Mr. Stukeley, from the papers enclosed. It was generally supposed at his death, that he had put large sums in the hands of a banker, or lent them to some tradesman in London, without taking any memorandum; all which were lost to his heirs,

as he would never say to whom he lent them. He was afraid, perhaps, lest he should hear it was lost; for there are some that can bear to suspect, though not to know positively, that their riches have taken to themselves wings. After more than thirty years living a recluse, he was at last found dead in his bed, at the age of seventy.

The gentleman who accompanied him to the Town Hall, when he went to take the oath of allegiance, talked with him on every subject he could recollect, without discovering in him the least tincture of madness. He rallied himself on the perpetual motion, laughed at the folly of confining himself indoors, and said he believed he should, some time or other, come abroad again, like other men. He was always esteemed a person of good understanding, before his shutting himself up. At the time of his death, he was building a house, the walls of which were seven feet thick.

Respectable Misanthrope.

A house in Grub Street had long been noted as the residence of a solitary gentleman, whom nobody could ever catch a glimpse of, and who permitted nobody to see him, except an old maid servant, and her only in some cases of great necessity. Three rooms of the house he reserved for his exclusive use: one for eating in; a second as a study; and a third as a bed-room. His time was spent in reading, meditation, and prayer. His diet was constantly bread, water-gruel, milk, and vegetables; and when he indulged himself most, the yolk of an egg. No Carthusian monk was ever more rigid and constant in his abstinence. He seemed, notwithstanding, in no want of money to have purchased every luxury of life. He bought all the new books that were published, although there was seldom one which, on a slight examination, he did not throw aside. He expended large sums, too, in acts of charity; and was very inquisitive after proper objects. He died the 29th of October, 1639, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and lies buried in St. Giles's Church, near Cripple-gate. - The old maid servant died but six days before her master.

Henry Welby, for such was the name of this singular recluse, was a native of Lincolnshire, where he had an estate of about a thousand pounds a year. He possessed in an eminent degree, the qualifications of a gentleman. Having been a competent time at the University and the inns of court, he completed his education by making the tour of Europe. He was happy in the love and esteem of his friends, and indeed of all that knew him, as his heart was warm, and the virtues of it were displayed in numerous acts of humanity, benevolence, and charity. When he was about forty years of age, his brother, an abandoned profligate, made an attempt upon his life, with a pistol, which not going off, he wrested it from his hands, and found it to be double charged with bullets. The event

filled him with such horror and disgust, for the society of men, that he resolved to seclude himself from it for ever; and so strictly did he adhere to this resolution, that although he had a very amiable daughter, who was married to Sir Christopher Hilliard, a Yorkshire gentleman, neither she, nor any of her family, ever saw her father after his retirement.

A Scholar's Burial.

Mr. John Underwood, of Naffington, who died in 1733, and was buried at Whittlesea, left six thousand pounds to his sister, on condition of her burying him in the following eccentric manner. When the grave was filled up, and covered with the turf, six gentlemen, who were appointed to follow him, and to whom he left ten guineas each, with orders not to wear black, sung the last stanza of the 20th ode of the second book of Horace. No bell was tolled; no one was invited but these six gentlemen; and no relation followed the corpse. The coffin was painted green, according to his direction; and he was buried with all his clothes on. Under his head was placed Sanadon's Horace; at his feet, Bentley's Milton; in his right hand, a small Greek Testament, with an inscription in gold letters; in his left hand, a pocket edition of Horace, with this inscription, *Musis Amicus*, J. U.; and under him, Bentley's Horace. After the ceremony was over, the parties attending it returned to his house, where his sister had provided a very good supper; and when the cloth was removed, they sung the 31st ode of the first book of Horace, drank a cheerful glass, and then went home.

All this was in strict consonance to his will, which, after giving very minute directions, thus concluded: 'Which done, I would have them take a cheerful glass, and think no more of John Underwood.'

An Independent Family.

Sir Philip Cravenleigh, a gentleman of good fortune in Shropshire, built a house, which contained everything that other persons usually erect offices for, viz., barns, granary, stables, cow-house, piggery, pigeon-house, sitting, drawing, and bed-rooms, all surrounded by one great court. His own bed-chamber was next to the barn, because he liked the noise of the flail at five o'clock in the morning. His great amusement was farming; keeping a thousand acres of land in his own management, the whole produce of which was consumed by his own family. He would not suffer a single penny to be laid out for any article the farm produced: such as wheat, malt, hops, meat, butter, milk, cheese, cider, &c. He extended this rigid rule to wine; but after bringing his son up as a gardener, sent him to France to learn the art of planting and dressing vines. On his return home, he had a vineyard planted, and drank the wine produced from it, whether it was good or bad. He used honey instead of sugar, which he

would never permit, any more than tea, to enter his house.

His family, from a wasteful extravagance, were once two months without bread; but still he would not permit a single loaf to be bought, but lived himself, and made all his family live, upon potatoes. Sir Philip was kind, nay, charitable, and much beloved. He was good-natured, unless anyone offered to contradict his humour; in which case, he became angry and inflexible. He governed a family of a hundred persons like a stern but sensible Ashaw; and never had any freaks of ill-nature, either with his family or servants.

Extraordinary Bequests.

The late Mr. Peter Isaac Thelluson, whose name is immortalized by one of the most extraordinary testamentary deeds on record, was native of France. Early in life he settled as a merchant in London, and made there an immense fortune which became the subject of his will. It amounted to about seven hundred thousand pounds. To his wife and children, he left £100,000. The residue he bequeathed to certain trustees, who were to pay it out in the purchase of estates in England, and to lay out all the accumulating proceeds on these estates in the same manner, until all the male children of his sons and grandsons should be dead. If at that remote period there should be any of his lineal descendants alive, the whole of the Thelluson property is to be theirs, on condition that if they are of a different name, they shall assume that of their magnificent benefactor. Before this can happen, however, it is estimated that from ninety one hundred and twenty years must elapse. At the expiration of these periods, the property will amount to not thirty-five millions; if not till the last, one hundred and forty millions! Should there, however, be none of the line of Thelluson existing at the demise of all the male children of his sons and grandsons, then the whole of the estates are to be sold, and the money applied to the *sinking fund*, under the sanction of Parliament.

Mr. Thelluson's heirs-at-law instituted a process in the Court of Chancery, to set aside his will; but after many long and learned arguments, it was pronounced to be a good and valid disposal of property. It is an old saying, that *they manage these matters better in France*; and some persons may think the adage confirmed by the following case in point, which we meet with in the official records of that country. M. Boursault, like Mr. Thelluson, acquired great wealth by trade, and his only relative at his death, was a niece. By a will which he made, he bequeathed that two hundred louis d'ors, being the sum he made the first year he began business, should be buried in his grave, as he thought no one worthy to inherit the first-fruits of his toil. The rest of his fortune he bequeathed in this manner; one-tenth to be given to his niece, in ten years, and another

tenth in twenty years. The other eight-tenths were to be paid to her children, if she had any; and in case of the death of his niece without children, the money was to go to the Hotel Dieu.

M. Boursault's heiress-at-law, was as little pleased as the heirs of Mr. Thelluson, and complained to the parliament of Paris; who, judging differently from our Court of Chancery, pronounced the will to be the act of a madman, and gave the whole property to the niece.

The Saddler's Daughter.

A rich saddler, whose daughter was afterwards married to Dunk, the celebrated Earl of Halifax, ordered in his will, that she should lose the whole of her fortune, if she did not marry a saddler. The young Earl of Halifax, in order to win the bride, actually served an apprenticeship of seven years to a saddler, and afterwards bound himself to the rich saddler's daughter for life.

Peter Big Brogues.

A young Irishman of the county of Meath, named Peter Gaynor, resolved to go to the West Indies, to make, as the saying is, his fortune. On the day he set out on his travels, he had on a pair of shoes of such enormous size, that his friends and acquaintance, who had assembled in great numbers to wish him long life and good luck, unanimously dubbed him with the name of Peter Big Brogues. Peter, with a great deal of eccentricity, was shrewd, industrious, persevering, and obliging; in the course of years, he acquired a large fortune, and lived to see his only child married to Sir George Colebrook, chairman to the East India Company, and a banker in London, to whom Big Brogues gave with his daughter two hundred thousand pounds.

Peter Big Brogues' Nephew.

Big Brogues had a nephew of the name of Augustine Pentheney, who was very early in life encouraged to make a voyage to the West Indies, to follow his trade of a cooper, under the patronage of his uncle, and acquired, like him, an immense fortune. He became, indeed, the richer, though not the better, man of the two; he accumulated at least £300,000, but used it in a way that was a disgrace to human nature. He was a miser of the most perfect drawing, perhaps, that nature has given to the world. Mr. A. Pentheney saw mankind through one medium only; his vital powers were so diverted from generous or social subjects, by the prevailing passion of gold, that he could discover no worth in any character, however venerable or respectable, that was not seconded by riches: in fact, anyone that was not rich, he considered only as an inferior animal, neither worthy of notice,

nor safe to be admitted into society. This extraordinary feeling he extended to the female sex, and if possible, with a greater degree of disgust. A woman he considered only as an incumbrance on a man of property, and therefore he never could be prevailed upon to admit one into his confidence. As to wedlock, he utterly and uniformly rejected the idea of it. His wife was the public funds, and his children, guineas; and no parent or husband paid more deference or care to the comforts of his family. He was never known to separate his immense hoard by rewarding a generous action, or alleviating an accidental misfortune, by the application of one shilling to such purposes. It could scarcely be expected, indeed, that a man who was so niggardly of comforts to himself, would bestow charity upon others. The evening before he died, some busy friend sent a respectable physician to him; the old miser did not show any apparent dislike to the visit, until he recollected the doctor might expect a fee; this alarmed him, and immediately raising himself in bed, he addressed the Irish Esculapius in the following words: 'Doctor, I am a strong man, and know my disorder, and could cure myself; but as Mr. Nangle has sent you to my assistance, I shall not exchange you for any other person, if we can come to an understanding: in fact, I wish to know what you will charge for your attendance till I am recovered.' The doctor answered, eight guineas. 'Ah, sir,' said the old man, 'if you knew my disorder, you would not be exorbitant: but to put an end to this discussion, I will give you six guineas and a half.' The doctor assented, and the patient held out his arm with the fee, to have his pulse considered, and then laid himself down again. His relations were numerous, but not being, in his opinion, qualified, from want of experience in the management of money, to nurse his wealth, he bequeathed the whole of it to a rich family in the West Indies, with the *generous sum* of £4 annually to a faithful servant, who lived with him twenty-four years. In the will, he expresses great kindness for poor John, and says he bequeathed the £4 for his kind services, that his latter days may be spent in comfortable independence! Like Thelluson, he would not allow his fortune to pass to his heirs immediately, as he directed that the whole should be funded for fourteen years, and then, in its improved state, be at the disposal of the heirs he had chosen. For the regulation of his last will and testament, he appointed Walter Nangle, Esq., and Major O'Farrell, of the Austrian army, his executors, and the Right Hon. David La Touche and Lord Fingal, trustees.

Mezeray.

The French historian, Mezeray, was a man subject to strange humours; extremely negligent in his person; and so careless in his dress, that he might have passed for a beggar, rather than what he was. He used to study and write by candle-light even at noon-day

in the summer; and, as if there had been no sun in the world, always waited upon his company to the door with a candle in his hand. He was secretary of the French Academy; and it was a constant way with him, when candidates offered themselves for vacant places in the Academy, to throw in a black ball, instead of a white one. When his friends asked him the reason of this unkind procedure, he answered, that 'it was to leave to posterity a monument of the freedom of elections in the Academy.'

A News Provider.

Mr. Samuel Crisp, who died about the year 1784, was a stock-broker, and retired from business with an easy competency. His daily amusement for the last fourteen years of his life, was in throwing into the letter-box of the several newspapers, slips of paper, containing short hints and broken sentences. And to gather materials for these, he travelled in the stage from London to Greenwich, and back again in the same coach, every day. The owner of the Greenwich stage, never anticipating that he would have so constant a customer, had agreed to carry him at all times for £27 a year; but he refused at last to stand by his agreement, and this, with some other mortifications from the newspaper editors, who did not value his favours at quite so high a rate as he thought he merited, put an end to poor Mr. Crisp's life.

Epicurism.

Mr. Rogerson, the son of a gentleman of large fortune in Gloucestershire, after receiving an excellent education, was sent abroad to make the grand tour. In this journey, young Rogerson attended to nothing but the various modes of cookery, and the methods of eating and drinking luxuriously. Before his return, his father died, when he entered into the possession of a very large fortune, and a small landed estate. He was now able to look over his notes of epicurism, and to discover where the most exquisite dishes were to be had, and the best cooks to be procured. He had no other servants in his house but men cooks, for his footman, butler, housekeeper, coachman, and grooms, were all cooks. Amongst those that were more professionally so, were three cooks from Italy, one from Florence, another from Sicenna, and another from Viterbo, who was employed for the special purpose of dressing one particular dish only, the *douce picante* of Florence. He had also a German cook for dressing the livers of turkeys, and the rest were all French.

Mr. Rogerson had a messenger constantly travelling between Brittany and London, to bring him the eggs of a certain sort of plover near St. Malo; and so extravagant was he, that he has ate a single dinner which, though consisting of two dishes only, cost him upwards of fifty guineas. He counted the minutes between his meals, and was wholly

absorbed in devising means to indulge his appetite.

In the course of nine years, he found his able dreadfully abridged by the ruin of his fortune, and he was verging fast to poverty. When he had spent a fortune of a hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and was totally ruined, a friend gave him a guinea to keep him from starving; but a short time after, he was found dressing an ortolan for himself. A few days afterwards he died by his own hands.

Saucy Arrangements.

Mr. John Langley, an Englishman, who settled in Ireland, where he died, left the following extraordinary will:

'I, John Langley, born at Wincanton in Somersetshire, and settled in Ireland in the year 1651, now in my right mind and wits, do make my will in my own handwriting. I do have all my house goods, and farm of Blackettle, of two hundred and fifty-three acres, my son, commonly called Stubborn Jack; him and his heirs for ever, provided he marries a Protestant woman, but not Alice Hendrick, who called me Oliver's whelp. My new buckskin breeches, and my silver tobacco-popper, with J. L. on the top, I give to Richard Richards, my comrade, who helped me off at the storming of Clonmel, when I was shot through the leg. My said son John shall keep my body above ground six days and six nights after I am dead; and Grace Hendrick shall lay me out, who shall have for doing five shillings. My body shall be put on the oak table, in the brown room, and twenty Irishmen shall be invited to my wake, and everyone shall have two quarts of the best *aqua vitæ*, and each one a skein, sh, and knife laid before him; and when the liquor is out, nail up my coffin, and commit me to earth, whence I came. This is my will. Witness my hand, this third of March, 1674.

'JOHN LANGLEY.

Some of Mr. Langley's friends asked him why he would be at such expense in treating the Irishmen whom he hated? He replied, that they got drunk at his wake, they would probably get to fighting and kill one another, which would do something towards lessening the breed.

Sir George Hastings.

The estate of Woodlands, in Dorset, belonged some ages ago to Sir George Hastings, whose father, brother, and nephew, were all lords of Huntingdon. At Winborne St. Giles, there is a whole-length picture of Sir George. He is dressed in a stiff-skirted, lead-coloured coat, with knots or tags at his girdle, a white round hat, large band, great boots with long laced-down tops, and spurs, with a great scabbard of leather in front, a hunting pole in his right hand, and his gloves in his left. Under the picture is the following account of him,

drawn by Shaftesbury, the noble author of the 'Characteristics.'

'He was, peradventure, an original in our age, or rather the copy of our ancient nobility in hunting, not in warlike times. He was low, very strong, and very active: of reddish flaxen hair; his clothes always green cloth, and never worth, when new, five pounds. His house was perfectly of the old fashion, in the midst of a large park, well stocked with deer; and near the house, rabbits for his kitchen; many fish ponds; great store of wood and timber; a bowling green, long, but narrow, full of high ridges, it being never levelled since it was ploughed; they used round sand bowls, and it had a large banqueting house, like a stand, built in a tree. He kept all manner of sport hounds, that run buck, fox, hare, otter, and badger; and hawks, long and short-winged. He had a walk in the forest, and the manor of Christchurch; this last supplied him with red deer; sea and river fish; and indeed all his neighbours' grounds, and royalties, were free to him, who bestowed all his time on these sports, but what he borrowed to caress his tenants' wives and daughters, there being not a woman in all his walks, of the degree of a yeoman's wife, or under, and under the age of forty, but it was her own fault if he was not intimately acquainted with her. This made him very popular, always speaking kindly to the husband, brother, or father, who was, to boot, very welcome in his house. Whenever he came there, he found beef, pudding, and small beer, in great plenty; the house not so neatly kept as to shame him, or dirty his shoes; the great hall strewn with marrow bones, full of hawks, paches, hounds, spaniels, and terriers; the upper side of the hall hung with fox skins of this and the last year's killing; here and there a polecat, intermixed with game-keepers' and hunters' poles in great abundance. The parlour was a large room, as properly furnished. On a great hearth, paved with brick, lay some terriers, and the choicest hounds and spaniels. Seldom but two of the great chairs had litters of cats in them, which were not to be disturbed, he always having three or four attending him at dinner, and a little white stick of fourteen inches long, lying by his trencher, that he might defend such meat as he had no mind to part with to them. The windows, which were very large, served for places to lay his arrows, cross-bows, and stone-bows, and such like accoutrements; the corners of the rooms full of the best chosen hunting poles; his oyster table at the lower end, which was in constant use twice a day, all the year round, for he never failed to eat oysters both dinner and supper, at all seasons; the neighbouring town of Poole supplied him with them. The upper part of the room had two small tables and a desk, on one side of which there was a church Bible, and on the other side the Book of Martyrs; on the tables, were hawks' hoods, bells, and such like; two or three old green hats with the crown thrust in, so as to hold ten or a dozen eggs, which were of the pheasant kind of poultry; these he took much care

of, and fed himself. Tables, dice, cards, and books, were not wanting. In the hole of the desk, were a store of tobacco-pipes that had been used. On one side of this end of the room, was the door of the closet, wherein stood the strong beer and the wine, which never came from thence but in single glasses, that being the rule of the house exactly observed, for he never exceeded in drink, or permitted it. On the other side was the door of an old chapel, not used for devotion; the pulpit, as the safest place, was never wanting of a cold chine of beef, venison pasty, gammon of bacon, or a great apple pie, with thick crust, extremely baked. His table cost him not much, though it was good to eat at. His sports supplied all but beef or mutton, except on Fridays, when he had the best of salt fish, as well as any other fish he could get; and this was the day his neighbours of best quality visited him. He never wanted a London pudding, and always sang it in: "With my part lyes therein a'." He drank a glass or two at meals, very often put syrup of gillyflowers in his sack, and had always a tun glass without feet, stood before him, holding a pint of small beer, which he often stirred with rosemary. He was well-natured, but soon angry.

* * * * *

'He lived to be an hundred, and never lost his eyesight, but always wrote and read without spectacles, and got on horseback without help. Until past fourscore, he rode to the death of a stag as well as any.'

Vandramini, the Painter.

Some years ago, when artists were more scarce than they are at present, Vandramini, the painter, was taken into Yorkshire by Mr. Aislaby, of Studley Park, to paint him some pictures; but he committed such excesses that he was at length turned out of doors. Under those circumstances he went to a draper at York, where he had frequently been with his patron, and took goods for clothing on credit, and as, in conversation, he discovered that the man had saved one or two hundred pounds, he persuaded him to part with it, by the promise of five per cent. interest; then getting a tailor recommended to make the clothes, he decamped in a hurry. It was some months before Mr. Aislaby had occasion to go to York, and when he called on the draper, the latter ventured to ask after his friend, when the other exclaimed, he had turned the rascal out of doors for his drunkenness and dissolute conduct. An explanation took place, and the man was advised to get a picture for his money, as the painter was no further off than Scarborough. The advice was followed, and he found the artist, who, after a bottle, painted before he left him a *large head of Satan* after the Fall. This was exhibited *gratis* at the draper's house at York, and by the company it attracted amply repaid him. The poor tailor, who lived opposite, and had made the clothes, being mortified at his neighbour's

success, determined to walk over to Scarborough to see if he also could obtain a picture. On being introduced to Vandramini, with many bows and scrapes, begged, as the artist had painted a picture for his neighbour that was like to make his fortune, he would likewise paint one for him; but as his account was not so great as the draper's, he observed that he could not expect so large a picture; if he would be so good, however, as to paint him a *little devil*, he should be much obliged. The whim took; he got a small picture and returned to York, where both pieces were exhibited with great *éclat*.

Admonition and Thanks.

Mr. Cox, who was parish-clerk of St. Clement Danes in the early part of last century, once lent a man fifty shillings, which he kept him out of for several years. When Cox called at his house, he could never find him at home, though he always went to church on Sunday, when he confronted his creditor in the middle aisle. Cox was much mortified at this assurance, and resolved one way or another to remind him of his obligation; and that too while labouring in his proper vocation. One Sunday, when his old antagonist was seated, and bidding defiance to all pecuniary claims, Cox, looking him full in the face, repeated the first lines of two staves he had selected, commencing—

'The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again.'

This admonition had the desired effect, for the next day the man called and paid him the money.

Mr. Cox, who was a facetious old man, and loved his pipe and glass, had some difficulty of getting out from his wife, who was somewhat of a termagant. At length she died, and it was observed that on the evening she was buried the old clerk gave out the psalm beginning—

'This is a joyful day indeed.'

Duke of Newcastle.

The eccentric Duke of Newcastle kept the most princely table, and the greatest number of domestics, of any nobleman in the three kingdoms. He would never suffer any one of them, during a series of years, to dispose of any part of their old liveries, but made this usual perquisite up to them in money, and the cast-off clothes were carefully deposited in a large store room appropriated to that purpose, where they remained until after his grace's decease, when they were sold. The number of suits had so accumulated, that on their dispersion, and for a year or two after, there was scarcely a carter, coachman, drayman, chairman, or porter in London, but wore the Newcastle livery.

The duke is known repeatedly to have had thirty legs of mutton cut up in one day, merely to take out the pope's eye.

The part which his grace acted at the funeral

of George the Second is thus pleasantly described by Horace Walpole. 'The serious part of this grave scene,' he says, 'was fully contrasted by the burlesque Duke of Newcastle. He fell into a fit of crying the moment he came into the chapel, and flung himself back in a stall, the archbishop hovering over him with a smelling-bottle; but in two minutes his curiosity got the better of his hypocrisy, and he ran about the chapel with his glass, to spy who was or was not there, spying with one hand, and mopping his eyes with the other. Then returned the fear of catching cold; and the Duke of Cumberland, who was sinking with heat, felt himself weighed down, and turning round, found it was the Duke of N. standing upon his train, to avoid the chill of the marble.'

Getting a Prize.

Mr. Lenthall, who was descended from the Speaker of that name, while he lived at Burford, had a very good butler, who one morning came to him with a letter in his hand, and rubbing his forehead in that indescribable manner which is an introduction to something which the person does not know well how to communicate, he told Mr. Lenthall that he was very sorry to be obliged to quit his service. 'Why, what is the matter, John? has anybody offended you? I thought you were as happy as any man could be in your situation.' 'Yes, please your honour, that's not the thing; but I have just got a prize in the lottery of £3000, and I have all my life had a wish to live for one twelvemonth like a man of two or three thousand a year: and all I ask of your honour is, that when I have spent the money, you will take me back again into your service.' 'That is a promise,' said Mr. Lenthall, 'which I believe I may safely make, as there is very little probability of your wishing to return to be a butler after having lived as a gentleman.'

Mr. Lenthall was, however, mistaken. John spent nearly the amount of his ticket in less than a year. He had previously bought himself a small annuity to provide for his old age. When he had spent all the rest of his money, he actually returned to the service of Mr. Lenthall, with whom he lived many years.

Fortunate Venture.

In the year 1774, the following singular letter was read at a Board of Directors of the East India Company:

'GENTLEMEN,

'I am a clergyman of Ely, in the county of Cambridge. I have a parcel of fine boys, but not much cash to provide for them. My eldest son I intended for a pillar of the church; with his view I gave him a suitable education at school, and afterwards entered him at Cambridge, where he resided the usual time, and at Christmas took his degree, with some reputation to himself; but I must at the same time add, that he is more likely to kick a

church down than to support one. He is of a very eccentric genius; he had no notion of restraint to chapel gates, lectures, &c., for want of obedience to their rules: he treated them in the contemptible light of not being gentlemen, and seemed to intimate that he should call them to account, as in an affair of honour. This soon disconcerted all my plans for him; and on talking with him the other day, and asking him what road his honour would choose to pursue in future life, he told me that his plan was to go into the India service. Upon being interrogated whether he had any reasonable expectation from that quarter, he looked small, and said no. Now, gentlemen, I know no more of you than you do of me, and therefore it is not unlikely but that you will look upon me to be as chimerical a man as my son, in making this application to you; but you will remember that he is my son, and that reflection, I hope, will be deemed a sufficient apology. I want your advice, and not knowing any individual amongst you, I apply to you publicly as a body. If he will suit your service, and you can help me, do. He is now about twenty, near six feet high, well made, stout, and very active, and is as bold and intrepid as a lion. He is of a Welsh extraction for many generations; and I think, as my first-born, has not degenerated. If you like to look at him, you shall see him and judge for yourselves. You may leave word with your clerk. I shall call again shortly to hear what you say; and remain, in the meantime,

'Gentlemen, yours, &c. (in haste),

'THOMAS JONES.

'*Black Bull Inn, Bishopsgate Street,*

'*March 3, 1774.*

'P.S. If you like him, I will equip him.'

The board of directors, pleased with the blunt simplicity of this letter, ordered an appointment to be made out for the young man as a cadet.

Swift at Thomas-Town.

Dean Swift had heard much of the hospitable festivities of Thomas-town, the seat of Mr. Mathew [See *Anecdotes of Conviviality*], from his friend, Dr. Sheridan; who had often been a welcome guest, both on account of his convivial qualities, and as being the preceptor of the nephew of Mr. Mathew. He at length became desirous of ascertaining with his own eyes, the truth of a report, which he could not forbear considering as greatly exaggerated. On receiving an intimation of this from Sheridan, Mr. Mathew wrote a polite letter to the dean, requesting the honour of a visit, in company with the doctor, at his next school vacation. They accordingly set out on horseback, attended by a gentleman who was a near relation to Mr. Mathew.

They had scarcely reached the inn where they intended to pass the first night, and which, like most of the Irish inns, at that time, afforded but miserable entertainment, when they were surprised by the arrival of a coach and six horses, sent to convey them the

remainder of the journey to Thomas-town ; and at the same time, bringing a supply of the choicest viands, wines, and other liquors, for their refreshment. Swift was highly pleased with this uncommon mark of attention paid him ; and the coach proved particularly acceptable, as he had been a good deal fatigued with his day's journey.

When they came in sight of the house, the dean, astonished at its magnitude, cried out, 'What, in the name of God, can be the use of such a vast building?' 'Why, Mr. Dean,' replied the fellow-traveller before mentioned, 'there are no less than forty apartments for guests in that house, and all of them probably occupied at this time, except what are reserved for us.' Swift, in his usual manner, called out to the coachman, to stop, and drive him back to Dublin, for he could not think of mixing with such a crowd. 'Well,' said he, immediately afterwards, 'there is no remedy, I must submit, but I have lost a fortnight of my life.'

Mr. Mathew received him at the door with uncommon marks of respect ; and then conducting him to his apartments, after some compliments, made his usual speech, acquainting him with the customs of the house, and retired, leaving him in possession of his castle. Soon after, the cook appeared with his bill-of-fare, to receive his directions about supper ; and the butler, at the same time, with a list of wines and other liquors. 'And is all this really so?' said Swift, 'and may I command here, as in my own house?' His companion assured him he might, and that nothing could be more agreeable to the owner of the mansion, than that all under his roof should live conformably to their own inclinations, without the least restraint. 'Well then,' said Swift, 'I invite you and Dr. Sheridan to be my guests, while I stay ; for I think I shall scarcely be tempted to mix with the mob below.'

Three days were passed in riding over the demesne, and viewing the various improvements, without ever seeing Mr. Mathew, or any of his guests ; nor were the company below much concerned at the dean's absence, as his very name usually inspired those who did not know him, with awe ; and they were afraid that his presence would put an end to the ease and cheerfulness which reigned among them. On the fourth day, Swift entered the room, where the company were assembled before dinner, and addressed Mr. Mathew in a strain of the highest compliment, expatiating on all the beauties of his improvements, with all the skill of an artist, and with the taste of a connoisseur. Such an address from a man of Swift's character, could not fail of being pleasing to the owner, who was, at the same time, the planner of these improvements ; and so fine an eulogium from one, who was supposed to deal more largely in satire than panegyric, was likely to remove the prejudice entertained against his character, and prepossessed the rest of the company in his favour. He concluded his speech, by saying, 'And now, ladies and gentlemen, I am come to live

among you, and it shall be no fault of mine, if we do not pass our time agreeably.'

In a short time, all restraint on his account disappeared. He entered readily into all the little schemes for promoting mirth ; and every day, with the assistance of his coadjutor, produced some new one, which afforded a good deal of sport and merriment. In short, never were such joyous scenes known at Thomas-town before. When the time came which obliged Sheridan to return to his school, the company were so delighted with the dean, that they earnestly entreated him to remain there some time longer ; and Mr. Mathew himself for once broke through a rule which he observed, of never soliciting the stay of any guest. Swift found himself so happy, that he readily yielded to their solicitations ; and instead of a fortnight, passed four months there, much to his own satisfaction, and that of all those who visited the place during that time.

Discounting a Legacy.

Mr. Taylor, the stock-jobber, who died worth one hundred thousand pounds, consols, was so penurious, that he scarcely allowed himself the common necessities of life. A few days before his decease, the officers of the parish in which he resided, waited upon him at his request ; they found the old man on a wretched bed in a garret, making his dinner on a thin rasher of bacon and a potato, of which he asked them to partake. One of them accepted the offer ; upon this, the miser desired his cook to broil him another ; but finding the larder was totally empty, he harshly rebuked her for not having it well supplied with a *quarter of a pound*, to cut out in rashers whenever it was wanted for company. He then informed the overseers of the poor, that he had left by his will £1000, sterling, for their relief, and eagerly inquired if they would not allow him *discount*, for *prompt payment* : this being assented to, apparently much delighted, he immediately gave them a cheque on his banker for £950 ! and soon after breathed his last.

Economical Sportsman.

Some years ago, there lived in London a very extraordinary sportsman, a Mr. Osbaldeston, who was clerk to an attorney. He was the younger son of a gentleman of good family in the North of England ; and having imprudently married one of his father's servants, was turned out of doors, with no other fortune than a southern hound, big with pup, and whose offspring from that time, became a source of amusement to him. With half a dozen children, as many couple of hounds, and two hunters, did Mr. Osbaldeston keep himself, family, dogs, and horses, upon an income of sixty pounds per annum. This, too, was effected in London, without running into debt, or ever wanting a good coat on his back. To explain this seeming impossibility, it should be remarked, that after the expiration of the

office hours, he acted as an accountant for the butchers of Clare Market, who paid him in offal: the cleanest morsels of this, he selected for himself and family; and with the rest, he fed his hounds, which were kept in the garret. His horses were lodged in his cellar, and fed on grains from a neighbouring brewhouse, and on damaged corn, with which he was supplied by a corn-chandler, whose books he kept. Once or twice in the season, he hunted; and by giving a hare now and then to the farmers, over whose ground he sported, he secured their goodwill and permission; and several gentlemen knowing the economy of his hunting establishment, connived at his sporting over their manors.

Melancholy Delusion.

Simon Southward was a miller at Boxgrove, near Chichester, and followed the occupation with industry and attention, until the year 1766; when, from a strange species of insanity, he fancied himself Earl of Derby, King of Man; assumed those titles, neglected his business, and became extremely troublesome to his neighbours. In February, 1767, he was arrested for a small debt, at the suit of the Duke of Richmond, and was conveyed to the old gaol at Horsham. From this he was removed to the present gaol, and after a captivity of forty-three years, four months, and eight days, was at length released by the end of death, in 1810! Simon Southward had a commanding countenance; his manners were generally affable, and his deportment polite; he was, however, when offended, exceedingly wrath, and with difficulty pacified, particularly when his ire had been occasioned by doubts about his assumed dignity. He supposed himself a state prisoner, and would accept of no money or clothes, which were presented to him as coming from the king, or his cousin. His dress was generally a drab coat of a very ancient cut, and a cocked hat with a black cockade. Simon was always addressed, as well by the governors of the gaol, as by his fellow prisoners and visitors, in the style of 'My lord!' and to no other nomination would he ever reply. He had been supported for a number of years, by a weekly stipend from the parish of Boxgrove, which he expended on necessaries with the strictest economy; but could scarcely be prevailed upon to receive a meal or other viour, except under the deception above stated.

Dr. Monsey.

Dr. Messinger Monsey, who was many years physician to Chelsea College, and known all over the metropolis for his eccentricities, used, by way of ridiculing family tradition, to say, that the first of his ancestors, of whose name, was a baker, and dealer in hops; a trade which enabled him with some difficulty to support a large family. To procure a great sum of money, he robbed the feather

beds of their contents; and supplied the deficiency with unsaleable hops. In a few years, a severe blight universally prevailing, hops became very scarce, and enormously dear; and the hoarded treasure was ripped out, and a good sum procured for hops, which, in a plentiful season, would not have been saleable: 'And thus,' the doctor used to add, 'our family *hopped* from obscurity.'

The doctor enjoyed the office of physician to Chelsea Hospital for so long a period, for he lived to the great age of ninety-six, that the reversion of the place was successively promised to many persons, who never lived to see it vacant. The gentleman for whom it was last intended, having gone out to Chelsea, to take a view of his land of promise, the doctor saw him from his window examining very curiously the house and gardens; and guessing the purpose of his visit, he went out, and thus accosted him: 'Well, sir, I see you are examining your house and gardens that are to be; and I can assure you they are both very pleasant, and very convenient; but I must tell you one circumstance; you are the fifth man that has had the reversion of the place, and I have buried them all; and what is more, there is something in your face, that tells me I shall bury you too!' Not only was the doctor's prediction verified; but of such bad omen did the reversion to the physicianship of Chelsea, become at last, that nobody would accept of it; and at the doctor's death, there was no one who had the promise of the situation.

Although the doctor was a man of great whimsicality, he possessed a very comprehensive understanding, and no small share of wit and genius. He numbered among his most intimate friends, some of the greatest men of his time, and among others, that great statesman, Lord Godolphin. Of Monsey's skill in his professional capacity, the proofs on record are not so satisfactory. He is said to have adopted a very singular mode of drawing his own teeth: it consisted in fastening a strong piece of catgut firmly round the affected tooth; the other end was fixed to a perforated bullet: and with this a pistol was charged, and when held in a proper direction, by touching the trigger, a troublesome companion, and tedious operation, were got rid of. A person whom the doctor fancied he had persuaded to adopt this new mode of operation, went so far as to let him fasten the catgut to the tooth; his resolution then failed, and he loudly cried out, that he had altered his mind. 'But I have not,' said Monsey, holding fast the string and giving it a smart pull, 'you are a fool and a coward for your pains.'

The doctor had a taste for mechanics; and to this, his mode of tooth-drawing may with probability be ascribed. An apartment of his house he had converted into a workshop, and filled with a confused collection of wheels, pendulums, nails, saws, hammers, chisels, and other instruments of handicraft. As long as age and eyesight permitted, he would amuse himself here the whole day long, and

took particular pleasure in executing all sorts of joiners' work, either for himself, or any of his friends.

In his habits, the doctor was penurious and saving; and like all misers, one of his chief cares was the care of his treasures; he was often at a loss to know which place was the safest to deposit his cash in; for bureaux and strong boxes, he knew were not always secure. Previous to a journey into Norfolk, one summer, he selected the fire-place of his sitting-room, for his treasury; and placed the bank notes and cash, under the einders and shavings. On his return, after a month's absence, he found his old woman preparing to treat a friend or two with tea, and in order to show the more respect to her guests, the parlour fire-place was selected for boiling the kettle, as she never expected her master until she saw him. The fire had just been lighted, when the doctor arrived at the critical moment; he rushed without speaking to the pump, where luckily a pail of water was standing; he threw the whole over the fire and the poor old woman, who was diligently employed in removing it. His money was safe; for although some of the notes were partially burnt, sufficient fragments remained to enable the doctor, with some official trouble, to get paid at the bank.

British Timon.

Mr. Gossling, an old gentleman who lived in Wych Street, about the year 1737, was called the British Timon, or woman-hater, on account of his never employing a woman to do anything about him. He occupied two rooms, lighted his own fire, cooked his own victuals, made his own bed, and washed his own stockings and handkerchiefs, the only washable articles of his dress, for he wore no shirt, nor had he any sheets on his bed. His dress, which was remarkable and antiquated, was preserved with the utmost care; and he used to strew over such of his clothes as he did not wear constantly, cedar saw-dust and shavings: he used the same process with his bedding.

Count de Buckebourg.

Count Schaumbourg Lippe, better known by the title of the Count de Buckebourg, was as singular in his appearance as he was in his manners. [See *Camp Dinner, Anecdotes of Conviviality*.] When he commanded the Portuguese army against the Spaniards, the generals of the latter, when reconnoitring with their telescopes, and observing the count, exclaimed with one voice, 'Are the Portuguese commanded by Don Quixote?' Indeed, his heroic countenance and flowing hair, his tall and meagre figure, and above all, the extraordinary length of his visage, might well bring back the recollection of the Knight of La Mancha.

The count, who was born in London, was fond of contending with the English in every-

thing. He once laid a wager, that he would ride a horse from London to Edinburgh backwards; and in this manner he actually travelled through several counties in England. He also travelled the greatest part of the kingdom on foot, and in company with a German prince, made a tour through several counties as a common beggar.

The count, being informed that part of the current of the Danube above Regensburg, was so strong and rapid, that no person had even dared to swim across it, he made the attempt, and swam so far, that it was with difficulty he saved his life.

Tars Treating an Old Acquaintance.

As a party of sailors were going to Highgate, on passing a farrier's shed, one of them chanced to observe a little white pony standing at the door. He instantly vociferated to his companions, that it was the pony that Prince William (the Duke of Clarence, then a midshipman) used to ride upon in Jamaica. These words were no sooner uttered, than the eyes of the whole party were turned on the pony; and almost in the same moment, they one and all sprung forward to pour forth their congratulations on so unexpected a meeting. The first transport of joy being over, they, without enquiring to whom the pony belonged, took it up in their arms, carried it in triumph to a neighbouring public-house, into which they wished to carry him: but Boniface persuaded them to deposit him at the door. Some of them ran into the house, and soon afterwards returned with a quartern loaf, and a couple of pots of porter. The bread was hastily broken into bits, which, with the porter, were thrown into a large earthen dish, and the foaming mess presented to the little favourite, who greedily devoured it, to the no small diversion of those boisterous sons of good humour, whose obstreperous mirth brought a crowd to the door.

One of the honest tars, eager to show a greater share of zeal for his prince, or affection for the little animal, of whose appetite and enjoyments he probably judged from his own, threw into the dish half a pint of gin. This produced three cheers, and appeared so gratifying, that they all drank bumpers of the same liquor, to the health of the royal midshipman, and his little white pony. They then threw down some silver, without counting it, conducted the pony back to the farrier's shop, and proceeded on their journey.

Journeyman Miser.

In 1803, there died in Clare Market, one Tom Pett, a journeyman butcher, who had worked there forty-two years, and though his wages were small, had, by dint of mere saving, amassed the sum of £2475 in the 3 per cents. For the last thirty-five years of

s life, he lodged in a gloomy back room on a second floor, which was never brightened up with coal, candle-light, or the countenance of a visitor. Every article of his dress was second-hand, nor was he choicer in the colour quality; jealously observing, when he was fitted on his garb, that, according to Solomon, there was nothing new under the sun; and that, as to colour, it was a mere matter of expediency; and that that was the best, which lasted longest to its integrity. Then, as to shaving, he used to say, a man did not deserve a shirt that would not wash it himself; and that the only fault he had to find with Lord North, was the duty he imposed on a top. There was one expense, however, that was heavy on his mind, and robbed him of nearly a night's sleep, and that was, shaving; often lamented that he had not learned to shave himself; but used to console himself by saying, that beards would one day be in fashion, and that even the Bond Street wig-makers would be driven to wear artificial ones. He made a promise one night, when he was very thirsty, that as soon as he had accumulated a thousand pounds, he would treat himself to a pint of porter every Saturday. Fortune soon put it in his power to perform this promise, and he continued to observe it till the additional duty was laid on porter; he then sunk to half a pint, as he thought that sufficient for any man that did not wish to get drunk, and, of course, die in a workhouse. If he heard of an auction in his neighbourhood, he was sure to run for a shilling, and when he had collected a number together, he used to sell them for a few pence.

When he was first told that the drink was restricted from paying in specie, he shook his head loudly, as Klopstock the poet says, 'to his bed, and could not be prevailed on to take a morsel, or wet his lips, till he was told that all was right.' On Sundays, after dinner, he used to lock himself up in his room, and amuse himself with reading an old newspaper, or writing rhymes, many of which he left behind him on slips of paper.

The following epigram will serve as a specimen of his talents in this way. It was written on hearing that small-beer was to be sold.

'They've raised the price of table drink;
What is the reason, do you think?
The tax on malt, the cause I hear:
What has malt to do with table-beer?'

It was never known, even in the depth of the coldest winter, to light a fire in his room, or to go to bed by candlelight.

He was a great friend to good cheer at the expense of another. 'Every man,' said he, 'has a right to eat when he can get it; an empty stomach cannot stand.'

His thirst at any time got the better of his prudence, and water was not at hand, he would sometimes venture to step into a public-house, and call for a pennyworth of beer. On such trying occasions, he was always sure to be found in the darkest corner of the tap-room, in such a position that he might drink in everything that

was said with thirsty ear. He was seldom or ever known to utter a word, unless Bonaparte or a parish dinner were mentioned; and then he would draw a short contrast between French kickshaws and the roast beef and plum-pudding of Old England, which he called the staple commodity of life. Once on a time, he was prompted to purchase a *pin* of small beer; but the moment he locked it up in his closet, he repented, tore the hair out of his wig, and threw the key out of the window, lest he should be tempted, in some unlucky moment, to make too free with it.

For the last twenty years of his life, his pulse rose and fell with the funds; he never laid down or rose, that he did not bless the first inventor of compound interest.

About three days before his dissolution, he was pressed by his mistress to make his will, which he last reluctantly assented to, observing, as he signed his name, that it was a hard thing that a man should sign away all his property with a stroke of a pen.

He left all he was possessed of to distant relations, not one of whom he had ever seen or corresponded with.

Whimsical Tastes.

A few years ago a young lady was living near Exeter, whose eccentric sympathies and antipathies, were the talk of the whole neighbourhood. She had a mortal aversion to all colours, except green, yellow, or white, in one of which she always dressed. She has been known to swoon away at the sight of a soldier, and a funeral never failed to throw her into a violent perspiration. She would not eat or drink out of any thing but queen's ware or pewter; and was as peculiar in what she ate or drank, preferring the muddy water of the Thames, to the clearest spring, and meat which had been kept too long, to that which was fresh. She preferred the sound of the Jews' harp to the most delicious music, and had in everything a taste peculiarly her own.

Lady Lewson.

It is not many years since a very remarkable personage, known to all her neighbours by the name of Lady Lewson, used almost daily to perambulate Cold Bath Square, the house, No. 12, wherein she resided for the better part of a century. So partial was this ancient dame to the fashions that prevailed in her youthful days, that she never changed the manner of her dress from that worn in the reign of George the First. She always wore powder, with a large *tête*, made of horse hair, near half a foot high, over which her hair was turned up; over that again, was a cap, which knotted under her chin, and three or four curls hanging down her neck. She generally wore silk gowns, and the train long, with a deep flounce all round; a very long waist, and very tightly laced up to her neck, round which was a ruff, or frill. The sleeves of her

gown came below the elbow, from each of which four or five large cuffs were attached; a large straw bonnet, quite flat, high heeled shoes, a large black silk cloak, trimmed round with lace, and a gold-headed cane, completed her every-day costume.

Lady, or, in plainer phrase, Mrs. Jane Lewson, for her title was but a popular tribute to the stateliness of her manners, was born in the year 1700, during the reign of William and Mary, and was married at an early age to a wealthy gentleman of the name of Lewson. She became a widow at the age of twenty-six, having only one daughter living at the time. Mrs. Lewson being left by her husband in affluent circumstances, preferred to continue single, and remained so, although she had many suitors. When her daughter married, being left alone, she became fond of retirement, and rarely went abroad, or permitted the visits of any person. For the last thirty years of her life, she kept no servant, except one old female, who was succeeded by her granddaughter, and she by an old man who attended the different houses in the square to go on errands, clean shoes, &c. Mrs. Lewson took this man into her house, and he acted as her steward, butler, cook, and housemaid, and with the exception of two old lap-dogs and a cat, he was her only companion. The house she occupied was large and elegantly furnished, but very ancient; the beds were kept constantly made, although they had not been slept in for fifty years. Her apartment being only occasionally swept out, but never washed, the windows were so crusted with dirt, that they hardly admitted a ray of light. A large garden in the rear of her house, was the only thing she paid attention to; this was always kept in good order: and here, when the weather permitted, she enjoyed the air, or sometimes sat and read, of which she was particularly fond; or else chatted on past times with any of the few remaining acquaintances whose visits she permitted. She seldom visited herself, except at Mr. Jones's, a grocer in the square, with whom she dealt. She had for many years survived every individual of her relatives within many degrees of kindred, and died at last at the great age of one hundred and eighteen. She always enjoyed an excellent state of health, assisted in regulating her house, and never had, until a little previous to her decease, an hour's illness. She cut two new teeth at the age of eighty-seven, and never lost one in her life, nor was she ever troubled with the toothache.

An Old Maid's Will.

A maiden lady, who died in London in 1786, left the following singular legacies in her will.

'Item. I leave to my dear entertaining Jackoo (a monkey), £10 per annum during his natural life, to be expended yearly for his support.'

'Item. To Shock and Tib (a lapdog and a cat), £5 each for their annual subsistence

during life; but should it so happen that Shock die before Tib, or Tib before Shock, then, and in that case, the survivor to have the whole.'

The legacies in remainder, were bequeathed to her niece.

Kingly Wants.

Peter Pindar relates the following story in one of his notes. The cry of 'More money,' brings to recollection a little dialogue amongst the many that happened between the King of the Mosquitoes and myself in the Government-house at Jamaica, during the administration of the late Sir William Trelawney. His majesty was a very stout black man, exceedingly ignorant, nevertheless possessed of the sublimest ideas of royalty: very riotous, and grievously inclined to get drunk. He came to me one day, with a voice more like that of a bullock than a king, roaring, 'Mo drink for king—mo drink for king!'—*Peter Pindar*—'King, you are drunk already.'—*King*—'No, no; king no drunk—king no drunk—Mo drink for king!'—*Broder George love drink*—(meaning the King of England.)—*Peter Pindar*—'Broder George does not love drink: he is a sober man.'—*King*—'But King of Mosquito love drink—me will have mo drink—me love drink like devil—me drink whole ocean!'

Keeping Account.

An old tradesman in the town of Stirling, used to keep his accounts in a singular manner. He hung up two boots, one on each side of the chimney; and in one, he put all the money he received; and in the other, all the receipts and vouchers for the money he paid; at the end of the year, or whenever he wanted to make up his accounts, he emptied the boots, and by counting their several and respective contents, he was enabled to make a balance perhaps with as much regularity, and as little trouble, as any book-keeper in the country.

Isaac Ambrose.

Few works have been more popular with all ranks of people than those of honest Isaac Ambrose, the nonconformist. His thoughts had every year what he called a musing time. It was his regular custom to retire for a month every summer to a little hut in a wood, where he shunned all society, and gave himself up entirely to contemplation. When death came to put an end to his labours, he had so strong a presentiment of its approach, that he went round to all his friends, at their own houses, to bid them farewell; and, after sending his last finished composition, 'A Discourse concerning Angels,' to the press, he shut himself up in his parlour to die, and there he was next day found expiring, in the seventy-second year of his age.

Duke of Wharton.

The Duke of Wharton, so famed for his any eccentricities, making a call one morning on Mr. G——, his lawyer, who had chambers in the Temple, found him under the hands of his barber. Throwing himself, therefore, into a chair, he took a pamphlet which lay on the table before him, and amused himself with skimming the pages of it, till Strap finished his operation on Mr. G.'s face. The duke then having laid down his pamphlet, and stroked his chin, started up, and said to Strap, 'Come, friend, get your things ready to shave me.' He accordingly obeyed the duke with docility, being no stranger to his grace's person, and shaved him to his satisfaction. 'The duke then, having wiped his face, and replaced his wig before the glass, put his hand into his pocket; but drawing it out again hastily, expressed no small uneasiness that he had no money to pay for the removal of his beard. 'Oh, and please your grace,' said Strap, perceiving, 'it is no matter, your grace is very good.' 'Yes, but it is, though,' replied the duke; 'I hate to be in debt; therefore, sit down in that chair, and I will shave you, and then we shall be even (winking at the same time to Mr. G.).' Strap looked rather foolish, and made some awkward speeches, but they were of no service to him: the duke was peremptory, so he sat. The duke went to work with much mock gravity, and having shaved the poor fellow, in style not amiss for a duke, he exclaimed, 'There, friend, I am out of debt,' and ran upstairs, laughing most heartily.

A 'King's Messenger.'

Attached to the King's Printing Office there for many years a singular character of the name of John Smith, in the capacity of messenger, who died in 1818, at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. During a period of eighty years did this little creature fill the humble station of a messenger and carrier at his Majesty's Printing Office. What was accounted humble became in his hands important; and the 'King's Messenger,' as he always styled himself, yielded to the will of his majesty's ministers in the conservation of the dignity of his office, when charged with king's speeches, addresses, and other papers of state. At the offices of the secretaries of state, when loaded with papers of this description, he would throw every chamber without ceremony; the Privy and Exchequer doors could not open to him, and even the study of archbishops had often been invaded by this important messenger of the press. His antiquated and shabby garb corresponded with his wizard appearance, and his immense cocked hat was usually in motion, to assist him in the recollection of the old school; the recognition and conversation with great men in office were his delight.

But he imagined that this courtesy was due to his character, as being identified with the state; and the chancellor and the speaker were considered by him in no other view than persons filling departments in common with himself, for the seals of the one and the mace of the other did not, in his estimation, distinguish them more than the bag used by himself in the transmission of the despatches entrusted to his care. The imperfect intellect given to him seemed only to fit him for the situation he filled. Take him out of it, he was as helpless as a child, and easily became a dupe to those who were disposed to impose upon him. With a high opinion of his own judgment, however, he diverted himself and others by mimicking the voice and manner of his superiors when he thought he perceived any assumption of character. John could imitate the strut and swell of the great man, and even the frivolity of a fop. His early friends report of him that he was dutiful to an ancient mother, and sacrificed his own comforts for a parent's support; but it was not known that he ever felt the tender passion of love. It was now John's fate, at fourscore and ten, to discover himself to be a son of Adam. Female warmth melted the seals set on his thrifty bags, and the soothing of a daughter of Eve turned the miser to a spendthrift; the fair one, having spent his all, left him. The poor fellow, though a great man, was honest, and the liberal establishment to which he belonged adhered to him to his last moments. Like the leaves of autumn, generations of men are swept away, and are soon forgotten; and, though this singular being was comparatively known to few, yet as his hand has conveyed papers of state to most of the great statesmen of the last and present century, when, considering him ministering with fidelity in this way from the days of Sir Robert Walpole, beyond the time of William Pitt the Second, bearing on his back the mighty results of their labours, poor old John, who was as important in his own conceits as any statesman in his time, may lay in his claim also for his share of renown.

Sir David Dundas.

In a review at Weymouth some years ago, before his late majesty, General Dundas's horse fell with him. The attending officer immediately dismounted to assist the general, and was much concerned to learn that his leg was broken. 'I will try to get your boot off,' said the officer. 'Do, mon, do,' replied the general. A knife was instantly produced. 'Hoot, awa', mon, what are you about?' 'I am going to cut your boot off.' 'Hold, mon; ye shan't do ony such thing: no, sir, I bought them just before I came to the camp, and I gi'ed six-and-thirty shillings for them; pull it off, sir, pull it off.' It was represented to him that it was impossible, under his present suffering; but nothing would do; 'the boot should not be cut to pieces in that manner.' At this moment King George the Third ar-

rived at the spot, and anxiously inquired what had happened? The circumstance was explained. 'What! what! not cut off the boot? pooh, pooh, stuff,' said the king: 'cut it off, cut it off.' 'No, no,' replied the general; 'they are new boots, your majesty; and I command him at his peril not to cut the boot—he can pull it off.' Remonstrance was in vain. The Prince of Wales (his present majesty) arrived during the squabble; and on learning the cause of the apparent dispute, added his persuasion to the king's to have the boot dismembered. The only reply of the general was, 'No, no, it shan't be cut off. They cost me six-and-thirty shillings.' The attempt was then made to draw off the boot, and at length accomplished, though the agony of the sufferer was feelingly portrayed by the perspiration dropping from his forehead. A surgeon had, in the meantime, been sent for, and now arrived: on examination, he ascertained that the limb was not broken, but dreadfully bruised; on which, the king immediately despatched a messenger for one of his carriages, then on the ground, and the general was conveyed to Weymouth, inwardly exulting that he had saved his boot; the prince rejoicing that the accident was no worse, and congratulating him on saving his six-and-thirty shillings.

Some time after, on another day of exercise, when the general had recovered, he solicited the king to witness a new manœuvre he had adopted; and as they were proceeding to the spot marked out, he wished the king to take the upper ground. 'No, no,' replied his majesty, 'I'm not fond of opodeldoc; but if I were to get a fall, I would sacrifice my boot to save my leg.' The same day, after the review, the general met the officer who had assisted him in his accident on the Esplanade, and requested him to join two friends to dinner that day. The officer was surprised, and mentioned the circumstance to Lord Harrington. 'What! invited to dine with Dundas?' said his lordship. 'Well, well, as he has asked you to dinner, I ask you to supper, and will give orders to have an *additional* cover.' His lordship was a true prophet; his anticipations were realized: the dinner consisted of an immense overgrown target of lamb, sufficient in quantity, but very inferior in quality; it was the *best* joint he could procure. An apple-pie formed the remove. One bottle of what should have been sherry, procured from an adjoining tavern, proverbial for recommending *cheap* liqueurs; and, after the cloth was removed, one bottle of *excellent* port from the *same* mart, constituted the *extraordinary* repast; the general remarking, as he emptied the decanter in *his own* glass, and looking through the blinds at the same moment, 'Ha, ha, I see the king is taking his evening walk on the Esplanade—we maun all go and make our boo to his majesty:' and at the same time rising from the table, took leave of his *highly gratified* guests. The anecdote was repeated in the evening, to the gratification of a numerous assemblage of brother officers, at the hospitable supper-table of Lord Harrington.

Sheridan.

Mr. Sheridan always lived and acted without any regular system for the government of his conduct; the consequence was, as might have been expected, that he became the sport of capricious friendship, and when the winter of his days approached, he experienced the mutability of political connexions, and the folly of neglecting those resources which can alone support the mind in every exigency, and minister to its comfort in the dreariness of solitude. Home, though the abode of domestic virtue and affection, was no longer safe to a man so long known and so much courted by numerous applicants, to avoid whose troublesome inquiries, and to gain a respite from anxiety, he passed much of his time in coffee-houses and taverns. Frequent inebriety was the result of such a course of life; and the effects of it upon his constitution, which had been naturally a very robust one, soon appeared in his countenance and his manners. Yet, sinking as he now was into the lowest state of human declension, occasional sallies of humour escaped him, even when he was unable to stand, or scarcely to articulate. Coming very late one night out of a tavern, he fell, and being too much overtaken with liquor to recover his feet, he was raised by some passengers, who asked his name and place of abode; to which he replied, by referring to a coffee-house, and hiccuping that he was Mr. *Wil-ber-force*.

The Palagonian Madness.

When Goethe was at Palermo in 1787, and joking with a tradesman in the great street of the city, a tall well-dressed footman came up hastily, and presented a silver plate, on which lay several pieces of copper, and a few of silver coin. 'As I did not know what it meant,' says Goethe, 'I shrugged my shoulders, nodding my head, the usual sign by which one excuses one's-self, whether one does not, or will not, understand the proposal or question. He was gone as quickly as he came, and I now saw his comrade on the other side of the street, employed in the same manner.

"What does that mean?" said I to the tradesman, who, with an expressive mien, and, as it were, by stealth, pointed to a tall thin man, who, in a court-dress, walked with much gravity and composure over the dirt. With his hair frizzled and powdered, his hat under his arm, in a silk dress, a sword at his side, neat shoes with diamond buckles, the old man walked gravely and calmly forward; all eyes were fixed upon him.

"That is the Prince of Palagonia," said the tradesman, "who from time to time goes through the city, and collects money to ransom the slaves captured by the Barbary pirates. It is true this collection never produces much; but the subject is called to mind, and those who give nothing when living often bequeath handsome sums for this pur-

se. The prince has been many years at the head of this institution, and has done infinite good."

"Instead of squandering such large sums, claimed I, on the follies of his palace, he could have employed them to this end. No prince in the world would have performed this."

"Ah!" said the tradesman, "that is the way with us all; for our follies we are willing enough to pay ourselves; others must furnish the money to defray the expense of our tastes."

The Prince of Palagonia, of the follies of whose palace Goethe here speaks, was one of the most extraordinary patrons of the absurd and ridiculous that perhaps ever existed. The following is the account given by Goethe of its origin and progress of the Palagonian madness, as he justly styles it:—

When a country-house in these parts lies more or less in the middle of the whole estate, in order to reach the mansion, one has to go through cultivated fields, kitchen gardens, &c., the people show themselves more economical than the inhabitants of the north, and often employ a large extent of good ground for a park, in order to please the eye with unfruitful shrubs. Here, in the south, they build two walls, between which you go to the mansion, without any prospect either to the right or the left. This road generally begins with a great portal, perhaps with an hedge way, and ends in the courtyard of the mansion. But that they may not be wholly without entertainment between these walls, they are scalloped out at the top, and ornamented with scrolls and pedestals, upon which, perhaps, there stands a vase here and there. The plain parts are divided into compartments, and painted. The courtyard is surrounded with a circle of buildings, of one story, inhabited by the servants and workmen; the square-formed mansion rises above

This is the nature of the arrangement, as probably existed till the father of the prince built the mansion, not indeed in the most excellent, but in a tolerable, style. But the present owner, without departing from those general principles, gives full scope to his imagination for deformed absurd images; and it is owing to him far too much honour to allow him the mark of imagination.

We enter the great hall, which begins at the boundary of the estate, and find an octagon very high in proportion to its breadth. Four enormous giants, with modern tight-laced gaiters, support the cornice, on which, directly opposite the entrance, there is a holy Trinity.

The way to the mansion is broader than the hall; the wall is converted into a continued casement, upon which raised pedestals support strange groups; in the intervals between these several vases are placed.

Just now said groups, and used a false expression, improper in this place; for those are placed together in consequence of any

reflection, or even design; they are, as it were, thrown together at random.

* * * * *

"That we may fully record the elements of the madness of the Prince of Palagonia, we give the following catalogue:—

Of the human race: beggars, both men and women, Spaniards of both sexes, Turks, Moors, hunchbacks, all kinds of cripples or deformed persons, dwarfs, musicians, punchinello, soldiers in ancient costume, gods, goddesses, people in the old French costume, soldiers with cartouch-boxes and gaiters, mythological characters with ridiculous additions. *Achilles* and *Chiron* with *Punchinello*. *Animals:* only parts of them; horses with human hands; horses' heads and human bodies, disfigured apes, many dragons and serpents, all kinds of paws to figures of all kinds; changes of the heads. *Vases:* all kinds of monsters and caprices, which terminate below in the bodies and feet of vases.

Conceive, now, hundreds of such figures, formed without sense or meaning, put together without taste or design; conceive this base, these pedestals and monsters in endless perspective; you will feel the unpleasant sensation which everyone must experience who has to run this gauntlet of insanity.

We approach the mansion, and come to a semicircular fore-court; the main wall opposite, in which is the gateway, is like the wall of a fortress. Here we find an Egyptian figure fixed in the wall, a fountain without water, a monument, vases lying scattered about, and statues purposely laid with the face downwards. We enter the courtyard, and find the usual circle surrounded with building, built out into several half-circles, that there may be no want of variety.

The ground is for the most part overgrown with grass. Here, as in a dilapidated churchyard, there are shapely ornamented marble vases, from the father's time; dwarfs, and other deformities of the new epoch, all thrown together in confusion, no place having yet been found for them. There is even a building quite full of old vases, and other carved stone.

The folly of such an absurd way of thinking is shown in the highest degree in this circumstance, that the cornices of the little buildings are all awry, declining obliquely to one side or the other: the line of the roofs is set with hydras and busts, with choruses of monkeys playing on musical instruments, and similar follies. Dragons standing alternately with gods, and an Atlas bearing a wine-barrel instead of a globe.

If you think to escape all this by retreating to the palace, which was built by the father, and has comparatively a reasonable appearance on the outside, you find, not far from the door, the laurel-crowned head of a Roman emperor, on a dwarf's body, which sits upon a dolphin.

In the palace itself, whose exterior leads you to expect a tolerable interior, the fever of the prince again begins to rage. The feet of the chairs are sawn of unequal length, so that

nobody can sit down upon them; and the porter warns you against the chairs on which you might sit, because pins are stuck under their velvet seats. Candelabras, of Chinese porcelain, stand in the corners, which, on a nearer examination, are found to be composed of single dishes, cups, and saucers, cemented together. Even the incomparable view over the cape to the sea is spoiled by coloured panes of glass, which, by a false tone, make the scene appear either cold or fiery. I must mention one cabinet, the walls of which are composed of old gilt frames, cut to pieces, and nailed close together. The carving of a hundred different patterns; all the various stages of ancient or more modern gilding, more or less dusty and damaged, cover here all the walls, and give the idea of a broker's lumber-room.

'It would take a volume to describe the chapel alone. Here we find the key to the whole madness, which could not branch out to this extent in any other than a bigoted mind.

* * * *

'As for the rest of the palace, it is not finished: a large saloon, which the father had begun to ornament in a rich and diversified, but not unpleasing, style, has remained in *statu quo*, as the boundless insanity of the owner cannot come to a conclusion with his follies.

'Our friend Kniep, whose feelings as an artist were driven to despair in this madhouse, was for the first time impatient; he hurried me on while I was trying to analyze and methodize the elements of this mis-creation. At last he good-naturedly sketched one of the groups, which made a kind of a composition. It represents a female centaur sitting on a seat, playing cards opposite to a cavalier, dressed in antique costume, with the head of a very old man, bearing a crown and a large wig; and calls to mind the arms of the house of Palagonia, which, after all this madness, are remarkable; a satyr holds a looking-glass to a woman, who has the head of a horse.'

Felix M'Carthy.

Mr. M'Carthy, so long well known in every circle of the metropolis for his eccentricity and benevolence, was a native of Cork, and served in the French army before the revolution. He came afterwards to London, where he lived about twenty years, in situations very different, and often on the chances of the day. He was occasionally an usher in different schools, which he generally quitted on the first receipt of his salary; he was sometimes a collector of intelligence for newspapers; at others, an agent for money lenders or borrowers; and was once in the confidence of the Earl of Moira, at which time he had a house in St. James's Place, an elegant equipage, and though he had been released from prison by two different insolvent acts, was started a candidate for Leicester, in opposition to Mr. Babbington, and polled

nearly two hundred voters. After this, Felix M'Carthy's sun of splendour set to rise no more; he lost the confidence of his noble patron, sunk into extreme distress, and at length died in the King's Bench prison.

Mr. M'Carthy was remarkable for his great stature and strength, which being united with a courage no less singular, rendered him extremely formidable when provoked by insult; though, like most men so gifted, he was, by his natural disposition, extremely placid, good-humoured, and forbearing. Many extraordinary feats are told by those who shared his intimacy in the prime of life, of the punishment, no less severe than singular, which he inflicted on the petulance of those who were so silly and so mistaken, as to fasten quarrels upon him.

The most celebrated of these affairs, was a rencontre with the celebrated Mendoza, at Vauxhall, during the period when that hero of the fist held the proud station of what is called, 'The Champion of England.' Mendoza was taken to Vauxhall for a freak, by a party of amateurs, who selected Mr. M'Carthy, from his size and apparent strength, as the object upon whom Mendoza might most conspicuously display his science, to the surprise and admiration of the surrounding assemblage. A quarrel was accordingly provoked between Mendoza and Mr. M'Carthy, in which Dan had the advantage, but without making any material impression on his robust and hardy opponent. The gentlemen, who ran from all parts of the garden, on hearing of the affray, at length recognised Mendoza, and thinking it unfair to suffer any one, of whatsoever apparent strength, unless a professed pugilist, to be involved in a contest with him, separated the combatants. When Mr. M'Carthy, enraged by the blows he had received, pressed for the renewal of the combat, they endeavoured to quiet him, by telling him, that his antagonist was the 'invincible pugilist Mendoza, the Champion of England!' This information, however, had a very different effect upon Mr. M'Carthy, from what it was intended and expected to produce. With a fury which it was impossible to restrain, he burst through the circle which surrounded him, and rushing upon Dan, in defiance of all efforts of art, he seized him in his arms, and carried him, struggling in vain to disengage himself, to the barrier at the entrance, over which he threw him with a force which astonished the beholders, to a considerable distance among the crowd, exclaiming all the time against his impudence, for presuming to obtrude himself into a respectable place of amusement, and to insult gentlemen, and enforce quarrels with them, when he did get in. Mendoza's friends, it may be supposed, did not complain of the chastisement he had received; nor were those who introduced him forward to resent or notice the animadversions made upon their conduct, not only by Mr. M'Carthy, but by the company in general. Vauxhall has, in consequence, remained free from the annoyance of professed bruisers, ever since, although the science has so far

pread into general practice, as to become nuisance in almost every other public place. Mr. M'Carthy, although he had been absent from Ireland about thirty years, during the earlier part of which he resided on the continent, always retained a sincere and ardent affection for his country. He was accordingly sought after by multitudes of his distressed countrymen, with whom he never failed to share his purse, while he had anything in it, and his heart, when it was the only treasure he possessed.

Where am I?

Henry Topham, the strong man of Islington, so could break ropes of two inches in circumference, and bend kitchen pokers on his arm, or his neck, was on his way home one night, when, finding a watchman fast asleep in his box, he took the whole on his shoulders, and carried the load with the greatest ease. When he reached Bunhill Fields burying-ground, he dropped the poor fellow and his repository over the wall. The watchman, waking, was for some time doubtful whether or not he was in the land of the living; and recovering from his fright, seemed to be only waiting for the opening of the graves around him.

Plaguering the Doctors.

Mr. Cooke, the miser of Pentonville, as he is called, was a great annoyance to gentlemen of the faculty. He used to put on ragged clothes, and go as a pauper to Mr. Saunders and other gentlemen, to have gratuitous advice for his eyes; get a letter for the dispensary, and attend there as a decayed tradesman, for several weeks, until detected. Having a wound in his leg, he employed a Mr. Pigeon, who lived nearly opposite to him, in the Lion Street, Pentonville, to cure it. 'How long do you think it will be before you cure it?' 'A month.' 'And how much will I give you?' Mr. Pigeon, who saw the wound was not of any great importance, answered, 'A guinea.' 'Very well,' replied Cooke; 'but mark this; a guinea is an immense sum of money, and when I agree on sums of such magnitude, I go upon the term of *no cure no pay*; so, if I am not cured by the expiration of the month, I pay nothing.' This was agreed to. After diligent attention, the wound was so nearly healed, that Cooke expressed himself satisfied, and would not let Pigeon see it any more. However, within two or three days of the month being completed, the old fellow got some sort of plaster, with cuphorbium tincture, from a farrier, and made a new wound in the place where the former had been; and calling for Pigeon the last day of the month, showed him that his leg was not well, and of course the guinea he had agreed for was forfeited. This story the old fellow used to tell of himself with great satisfaction, and it, 'plucking a Pigeon.' When on his

death bed, he sent for several medical men; some of them would not attend; but among others who went to see him, was Mr. Aldridge, of Pentonville. At one of the interviews, he earnestly entreated Mr. Aldridge to tell him candidly how long he thought he might live. The answer was, he might probably live six days. Cooke, collecting all his strength, and starting up in bed, exclaimed, 'Are you not a dishonest man, a rogue, and a robber, to serve me so?' 'How so?' asked Mr. Aldridge, with surprise. 'Why, sir, you are no better than a pickpocket, to go to rob me of my gold, by sending in two draughts a day, to a man that all your physic will not keep alive above six days? Get out of my house, and never come near me again.'

Bird Fancier.

Lady Reade, of Shipton, in Oxfordshire, when advanced in years, devoted all her time, and a considerable portion of her property, to her aviary, which was the most extensive and the most diversified of any in this country. When she travelled between London and Shipton she attracted almost as much attention as monarchy itself. At the inns where she stopped the gates were usually shut, to afford her an opportunity of disembarking and landing her cargo of parrots, monkeys, and other living attendants, who were stowed in and about her carriages.

Losing One's Head, and Getting a New One.

A famous watchmaker of Paris, infatuated for a long time with the chimera of the perpetual motion, became violently insane, from the overwhelming terror which the storms of the revolution excited. The derangement of his reason was marked with a singular trait. He was persuaded that he had lost his head on the scaffold, and that it was put in a heap with those of many other victims; but that the judges, by a rather too late retraction of their cruel decree, had ordered the heads to be resumed, and to be re-joined to their respective bodies. He, however, conceived, that by a curious kind of mistake, he had the head of one of his companions placed on his shoulders. He was admitted into the Bicêtre, where he was continually complaining of his misfortune, and lamenting the fine teeth and wholesome breath he had exchanged for those of very different qualities. In a little time the hopes of discovering the perpetual motion returned, and he was rather encouraged than restrained in his endeavours to effect his object. When he conceived that he had accomplished it, and was in an ecstasy of joy, the sudden confusion of a failure removed his inclination even to resume the subject. He was still, however, possessed with the idea that his head was not his own; but from this notion he was diverted by a repartee made to him when he happened to be defending the

possibility of the miracle of St. Denis, who, it is said, was in the habit of walking with his head between his hands, and in that position continually kissing it. 'What a fool you are to believe such a story,' it was replied, with a burst of laughter. 'How could St. Denis kiss his head?—Was it with his heels?' This unanswerable and unexpected retort struck and confounded the madman so much that it prevented him from saying anything farther on the subject. He again took himself to business, and entirely regained his intellects.

Ostervald.

M. Ostervald, the son of the celebrated minister of that name, at Neufchatel, went in his youth to Haniburg, where he was at first employed merely as a clerk in a banking-house. His habits, however, were parsimonious, and he soon began to save money. His first great acquisition, indeed, was not wholly the fruits of savings. He used to go every evening to an obscure ale-house, to drink his beer, which was the only supper he allowed himself, and never failed to carry away the cork of the bottle, as well as every cork which he could lay hold of. These, when he came home, he threw into a large cask. At the end of seven or eight years, these corks produced him a hundred crowns, which formed the foundation of his future wealth.

M. Ostervald afterwards went to Paris, where he accumulated a large fortune, but lived for five-and-twenty years in a furnished lodging, in order to avoid contributing to the public taxes. His meals, or rather his only meal, which he took constantly at an obscure tavern, never cost him more than a shilling.

In his last illness, it was the greatest torment to him to be obliged to reimburse and give up the pawns and contracts upon which he had lent money; and his anxiety on this subject suggested a thousand precautions, which he continued to practise when he was unable to read, or even to support himself. When just expiring, he refused to pay a livre for soup for his support; and yet under his pillow were found eight hundred thousand livres of assignats; and to relations whom he had probably never seen, he left, in all, about two millions and a half of livres.

By and By.

Mr. John Robinson, who died at Kendal in 1818, at the age of eighty-five, had formerly been a merchant at Liverpool, but failing in business, retired to Kendal, where he led a very singular life.

He was very covetous, but his love of money, in many instances, gave way to his predilection for whim and eccentricity. He had a horse on keep many years, at the Angel Inn, Kendal, but never rode it; for if he went a journey, which was frequently the

case, he led the animal the whole way. When asked why he did not mount it, his answer invariably was, that he meant to do so 'by and by.' If asked by any acquaintance for a loan of his Rosinante, his answer was, 'I have no time to go with thee to lead it.' The horse was killed by the humanity of his master, for he literally died from want of exercise. Mr. Robinson kept also several pointer dogs, bought up every gun that had the character of a good one, and annually took out a license; but his plan of future operations in this, as in all other cases, remained unrealised to the day of his death, for he never went out shooting, although he was always going 'by and by.' The idea of commencing sportsman had not left him at the age of eighty-five; for a few weeks before he died, he procured a number of new bags, proper for bringing home the game he should kill that season. The humanity with which Mr. Robinson treated his horse, and his persevering determination to maintain his dogs, in idleness, exhibit him in the character of a Pythagorean philanthropist: but, nevertheless, one of his principal pleasures was teasing his own species, for he was almost a constant attendant at sales by auction of household goods, and rarely hesitated to give any price for a book or article of furniture which he perceived another person had set his mind on. In consequence of this invidious and unsocial disposition he left many rooms in different parts of the town occupied by articles both of convenience and literature, which he never used.

Ridiculous Situations.

Marville, in his 'Melange d'Histoire,' mentions a few instances of very ridiculous situations in which great men have been placed. One of them must have been peculiarly so. The celebrated Constable Anne de Montmorency, a man whose valour and military skill were only exceeded by his pride, his cruelty, and bigotry, was ordered by Francis I. of France to carry on his shoulders, or any other way he could contrive, his niece, the Princess of Navarre, to the altar, where, against her will, she was to be married to the Duke of Cleves. This was a hard task, as the little lady was so loaded with jewels and rich brocade of gold and silver, that she could scarcely walk. The whole court was amazed at the king's command; the Queen of Navarre was pleased, as she wished her daughter to be humbled, on account of her having imbibed Lutheran principles; but the constable was excessively hurt, as it exposed him to the ridicule of the world. 'It is henceforth over with me,' said he; 'my favour at court is passed away.' The constable judged rightly, for he was dismissed as soon as the wedding was over.

The following instance with which M. Marville was probably unacquainted, is not less singular.

The Duke of Newcastle, who was at the

ad of the Treasury, frequently differed with his colleague in office, Mr. Pitt, the first Earl of Chatham, but the latter, by his firmness, always prevailed. A curious scene occurred at one of their interviews. It had been proposed to send Admiral Hawke to sea, in pursuit of M. Conflans. The season was favourable, and even dangerous for a fleet sail, being in the month of November. Mr. Pitt was at that time confined to his bed by the gout, and was obliged to receive all visitors in his chamber, in which he could not expect to have a fire. The Duke of Newcastle called upon him in this situation, to discuss the affair of this fleet, which he was of opinion ought not to sail in such a stormy season. Scarcely had he entered the chamber, when suffering with cold, he said, 'What, have you no fire?' 'No,' replied Mr. Pitt, 'I can never bear a fire when I have the gout.' The duke sat down by the side of the invalid, wrapped up in his cloak, and began to enter into the subject of his visit. There was a good bed in the room, and the duke, unable to endure the cold, at length said, 'With your leave, I'll warm myself in this other bed;' and without taking off his cloak, he actually got into Lady Esther Pitt's bed, and resumed the debate. The duke was entirely unjust in exposing the fleet to hazard in the month of November, and Mr. Pitt was as positively determined it should put to sea. 'The fleet must absolutely sail,' said Mr. Pitt, accompanying his words with the most natating gestures. 'It is impossible,' said the duke, making a thousand contortions, 'will certainly be lost.' Sir Charles Wetherill, of the ordnance department, arriving just at that time, found them both in a laughable posture; and had the greatest difficulty in the world to preserve his gravity, seeing two ministers of state deliberating on a subject so important, in such a ludicrous situation.

Avoiding the Cold.

The following account of a Mr. Tallis, who lived at the Crown at Burcott, near Droitwich, and kept his bed eight-and-twenty years, in order to keep himself warm, was written in 1780, by a gentleman who visited him. The gentleman was then seventy-two years of age, and so hearty in his appetite, that a prodigious quantity of victuals was always sent up to him; he was cheerful in conversation, and of a maintenance lively and intelligent. His main object was his bed, in keeping his bed, and no lack of clothing. 'His night-cap,' says his biographer, 'consists of the following particulars: nearest his head, is a cap made of forty yards of flannel, doubled and quilted, which he has eight more of the same amounting in the whole to eighteen caps. Over these he has two linen caps, of like quality and size. Next comes what I call his crown, which is forty yards of flannel; and to crown this, he has ten single caps, and as many flannel: so that the

full contents of his night-cap are eighty-four yards; and it is, including his head, as large as a bee-hive. Upon his breast, there lays a piece of flannel strained upon a light square wooden frame, which he lays over his face when he is going to sleep. He has two stoppers of cork fitted to his nostrils, but these he uses only in the winter; and it is remarkable, that though he takes so much pains to keep himself warm in bed, he will never, in the coldest season, suffer a fire in his room. His sheets are lined with flannel, and quilted; when they make his bed, he turns from one side to the other, and is never moved out of it but once a year, when they draw another bed close to the side of that in which he lies, and he tumbles, or is tumbled, into it. He changes his bed-clothes and bedding, and his night-cap, once a year. The reason for so eccentric a mode of life, he readily narrated to his friend. He stated, that when he was young, and had the care of his father's farm, he discovered an old woman who was in the constant habit of stealing sticks from the hedges. She had got a bundle, which he ordered her immediately to lay down. She did so, then falling on her knees, with uplifted hands, she prayed that he might never more be warm, and never know the warmth of a fire. "Immediately," said he, in relating the circumstance, "I began to feel myself chilly, and I have been growing colder and colder ever since." He began first to wear two shirts, then three, and soon doubling coats, waistcoats, &c., until, at length, he was unable to drag them about, and was, therefore, obliged to take to his bed, which was not, however, until twenty years after his encounter with the old woman.'

Tailor Light Horse.

When Queen Elizabeth was urged to assist the Dutch, in the war of the Low Countries, she refused for some time, and declared she would neither send man nor horse to their assistance. The representations of her council, at length, so far prevailed, that she consented to raise a regiment of light-horse. The commission was given to a general, with secret orders from the queen to enlist none but tailors, and to mount them all on mares. The regiment was soon completed, and sent to the Low Countries. In an action with the Spaniards, this corps was cut off from the main army, and the whole taken prisoners. When the news of this disaster reached the queen, her majesty, who never appeared dejected at any reverse of her arms, turned to the Earl of Leicester, and said, 'The Spaniards have no cause of triumph on this occasion, for though they may vainly boast that they have cut off an English regiment, I can say with truth, that I have not on this occasion lost either man or horse.'

Notwithstanding the queen's joke on this occasion, tailors have proved themselves men; and history records many distinguished warriors who were of that trade. It may be

sufficient to mention, that General Elliot, the intrepid defender of Gibraltar, though descended from a family much distinguished by their military exploits, was, when a boy, apprenticed to the trade of a tailor.

Self-Tormentor.

In the reign of Elizabeth, there was born in London, a man of the name of John Martin. In the tenth year of his age he was kidnapped by a Portuguese merchant, apparently for the purpose of preserving him in the Catholic faith; and this merchant, seven years afterwards, took him to Brazil, where being placed under the care of the Jesuits, he soon after became a member of that fraternity, by the name of Joam de Almeida. Anchieta was his superior, then an old man, broken down with exertion and austerities, and subject to frequent faintings. Almeida used to rub his feet at such times; in reference to which, he was accustomed to say, that whatever virtue there might be in his hands, he had taken it from the feet of his master. No voluptuary ever invented so many devices for pampering the senses, as Joam de Almeida did for mortifying them. He looked upon his body as a rebellious slave, who, dwelling within his doors, eating at his table, and sleeping in his bed, was continually laying snares for his destruction; he, therefore, regarded it with the deepest hatred, and, as a matter of justice and self-defence, persecuted, flogged, and punished it in every imaginable way. For this purpose, he had a choice assortment of scourges; some of whipcord, some of cat-gut, some of leathern thongs, and some of wire. He had cilices of wire for his arms, thighs, and legs, one of which fastened round the body with seven chains; and another, which he called his good sack, was an under waistcoat of the roughest hair, having, on the inside, seven crosses made of iron, the surface of which was covered with sharp points, like a coarse rasp, or a nutmeg-grater. It is recorded among his other virtues, that whatever exercise he might take in that hot climate, he never changed his shirt more than once a week; and that on his journeys, he put pebbles or grains of maize in his shoes.

His daily course of life was regulated in conformity to a paper drawn up by himself, and consisted of abstinence, sometimes relieved by bread and water, and flyflapping the *poor beast*, as he called his body, with scourges. The great object of his most thankful meditations, was to think, that having been born in England, and in London, in the very seat and heart of heresy, he had been led to this happy way of life.

In this extraordinary course of self-torment, F. Joam de Almeida attained the great age of eighty-two: and when the cilices and scourges were taken from him, lest they should accelerate his death, he was observed to lose his strength, as if his constitution was thereby injured. During his last illness, the convent

was crowded with persons who were desirous to behold the death of a saint. Scraps of his writing, rags of his garments, were sought for with the utmost eagerness; and when he was bled during his last illness, every drop of his blood was carefully received upon cloths, which were divided as relics among those who had the most interest in the college. Such were the extravagant lengths to which the Catholic superstition was once carried in Brazil.

Sailor on Shore.

Soon after the conclusion of the war in 1815, a sailor, who had lately been paid off, and who had been riding in a coach about the streets with a fiddler playing, strolled into Covent Garden Market, when he was asked by one of the basket-women if he wanted anything carried for him? He replied, that he wished to be carried himself to a place where he could get some breakfast. The woman, who wanted to go home to her lodging in St. Giles's, agreed to take him in her basket to a coffee-shop at the corner of High Street; the sailor, after getting his pipe lighted, took his seat in the woman's basket, which was set upon her head by others of her own fraternity, and off she went, followed by a great concourse of spectators of every description. Without once resting, the poor creature took her load to its destination, when the sailor rewarded her with a pint of rum and a £1 note.

Earl of Marchmont.

Frederick Mickelson, a celebrated surgeon dentist, who lived for upwards of forty years in Coventry Street, used to relate the following anecdote of the late Lord Marchmont, who was very parsimonious.

A strange person had called on him many years, whom he always supposed to be a tailor, and was, on that account, extremely moderate in his charges; nor did the person ever attempt to deceive him, but always found fault with his demand. This person he, by accident, discovered to be Lord Marchmont. The next time he called, a sudden alteration took place in his charges, and what had been two guineas to the poor tailor was now twenty to the Earl of Marchmont.

Honourable Humility.

General Bauer, who commanded the Russian cavalry in Holstein, was a soldier of fortune, whose family and country were unknown to every one. When encamped near Husum, he took a mode of discovering himself, as novel as it was amiable. He invited all his field officers, and some others, to dine with him, and sent his adjutant to bring a miller and his wife, who lived in the neighbourhood, to the entertainment. The poor couple came, very much afraid of the summons, and quite confused when they appeared before the Mus-

vite general. Bauer seeing this, bade them : quite easy, for he only intended to show em kindness, and had sent for them to dine th him that day : at the same time, he conversed familiarly with them about the country. At dinner, the general placed the miller and his wife one on each hand, and nearest to him, and paid particular attention to them. In the course of the entertainment, he asked the miller many questions about his family and relations. The miller stated, that he was the eldest son of his father, who left the mill he then possessed, and that he had two brothers and one sister. 'Have you no other brother?' said the general. 'No,' replied the miller; 'I had once another brother, but he went away with the soldiers when he was very young, and must have long ago been killed in the wars.'

The general observing the company much surprised at his conversation with the miller, said to them, 'Brother soldiers, you have always been curious to know who I was, and whence I came. I now inform you that this is the place of my nativity, and you have heard from this miller, who is my elder brother, what my family is.' Then turning to the astonished miller and his wife, the general embraced them, saying that he was the other they had supposed dead. The general then invited the whole of the company to meet him next day at the mill, where a plentiful entertainment was provided; the general intimating out to his brothers in arms the room which he was born, with as much evident joy, as if he had been showing them the place where he had gained a victory.

Petersburg Miser.

A Russian merchant, who was so immensely rich, that on one occasion he lent the Empress Catherine the Second a million of roubles, and to live in a small obscure room at St. Petersburg, with scarcely any fire, furniture, or attendance, though his house was larger than many palaces. He buried his money in casks in the cellar, and was so great a miser, that he barely allowed himself the common necessaries of life. He placed his principal security in a large dog of singular fierceness, which used to protect the premises by barking awfully the whole of the night. At length the dog died; when the master, either prevented by his avarice from buying another dog, or fearing that he might not meet with one which could so well depend on, adopted the singular method of performing the canine service himself, by going his rounds every evening, and barking as well and as loud as he could, in imitation of his faithful sentinel.

Marlborough.

The Great Duke of Marlborough, some years before his death, retired occasionally to Bath, and often amused himself with cards, though he seldom ventured to play high. One night he was engaged at piquet with Dean

Jones, from whom he won sixpence, and exacted the payment. The dean declared he had no silver; but the duke saying he wanted it to pay for his chair, he borrowed the money, and gave it to him. The dean knowing the avarice of his grace, watched him, and saw him walking home, in order to save the sixpence. Dean Swift, alluding to this weakness in the duke, says, 'That in all his campaigns he never lost his baggage;' and Pope speaks of him as one who would

'Now save a kingdom, and now save a groat.'

One day as the duke was looking over some papers in his scrutoire with Lord Cadogan, he opened one of the drawers, took out a green purse, and turned some broad pieces out of it, and after viewing them for some time with a satisfaction that appeared very visible in his face, 'Cadogan,' says he, 'observe these pieces well; they deserve to be observed. There are just forty of them; it is the very first sum I ever got in my life, and I have kept it always unbroken from that very time to this day.' 'This shows,' observed Pope to Mr. Spence, 'how early and how strong this passion must have been upon him.'

La Fontaine.

La Fontaine is recorded to have been one of the most absent of men; and Furetiere relates a circumstance, which, if true, is one of the most singular distractions possible. La Fontaine attended the burial of one of his friends, and some time afterwards he called to visit him. At first he was shocked at the information of his death; but recovering from his surprise, he observed—'It is true enough, for now I recollect I went to his burial.'

Horne Tooke.

Among the singularities of Horne Tooke was that of superintending the erection of a tomb for himself in his garden at Wimbledon, and writing his own epitaph. This tomb consisted of a brick vault, placed on the top of a tumulus in his kitchen garden. The slab that covered the top of the cenotaph was a piece of black Irish marble, on which he had caused to be cut the following inscription:—

JOHN HORNE TOOKE,

Late proprietor,
And now occupier, of this spot,
was

Born in June, 1736,
and

Died

In the . . . year of his age,
Contented and grateful.

It is remarkable, that in superintending the erection of his tomb, he actually became so ill in consequence of exposure to the cold air, that it was feared he would accelerate the event for which he had been preparing. He,

however, recovered from his illness : but his wish to be buried in the tomb which he had constructed for himself, was not complied with by his executors.

A Queer Shaver.

A few years ago a man of the name of Walton, from Luzerne county, entered the Court House of Sunbury, in the state of New York, took a seat at the council table, produced a shaving apparatus, and was about commencing the operation of shaving his beard, which had not been taken off for upwards of three years, and was nearly a foot in length. His strange appearance attracted the attention of the court, and every person present. The court, to prevent interruption, ordered the man to be taken away. He resisted, and at length was indulged by the court. He said he had been commanded by his Maker to do it, on that very day, in presence of the court, and with the same razor which he produced. Warm water was provided, and he soon disencumbered himself of his beard, put up his shaving utensils, thanked the court for their indulgence, and walked away seemingly much pleased.

Silent Beggar.

In 1805, a man, well known by the name of Old Harry, died at Lytham, in Lancashire. Upwards of twenty years had elapsed since his first appearance at that place, and during an uninterrupted residence till his death, no account of his parentage, place of nativity, or occupation, could ever be obtained from him. He was never known to crave charity, otherwise than by the silent mode of exposing himself to the view of such of the inhabitants as were accustomed to relieve his wants. His reason seemed to have received a shock, from some cause or other, for at intervals he evinced a sound state of mind, both by his conversation, and his accurate display of writing and arithmetic ; while at other times, he showed evident marks of a disordered imagination. He said he was born in the year 1730, and would often gratify himself with talking about going to Beverley market. His dialect evidently seemed to have been collected from that part of Yorkshire. He called himself Henry Stephenson, and said he was a married man ; but here he would end his discourse ; his reflection seemed to recoil at every question relating to the connexions of his youthful days, the endearing ties of conjugal affection, or the pleasing and domestic scenes which must have attended him in early life.

An Aquatic.

John Monro, who for upwards of sixty years has been Town Crier of Glenarie, a small village about six miles from Inverary, and who, in 1822, was still living, had a pecu-

liar fondness for water, so much so, that he may almost be deemed amphibious. Though at the advanced age of ninety-five, he makes it a regular rule to walk, daily, for the sake of recreation, the six miles betwixt his residence and Inverary, or to the top of Tullich-hill, which is very steep, and distant about two miles. Should the rain pour in torrents, so much the better, and with the greater pleasure does he perambulate the summit of the hill for hours in the midst of the storm. Whether it is natural to this man, or whether it is the effect of habit, cannot be said ; but it is well known he cannot endure to remain any length of time with his body in a dry state. During summer, and when the weather is dry, he regularly pays a daily visit to the river Arca, and plunges himself headlong in with his clothes on ; and should they get perfectly dry early in the day, so irksome and disagreeable does his situation become, that, like a fish out of water, he finds it necessary to repeat the luxury. He delights in rainy weather, and when the sky lowers, and the clouds threaten, and other men seek shelter ; then is the time that this man chooses for enjoying his natural element in the highest perfection. He never bends his way homewards till he is completely drenched ; and on these occasions, that a drop may not be lost, his bonnet is carried in his hand, and his head left bare to the pattering of the wind and rain. He enjoys excellent health : and, notwithstanding his habits, has been wonderfully fortunate in escaping colds, a complaint very common in this moist climate ; but when he is attacked, whether in dry weather or wet weather, whether in summer or winter, his mode of cure is not more singular than it is specific. Instead of confining himself, and indulging in the ardent sweating potions so highly extolled among the gossips of his country, he repairs to his favourite element, the pure streams of the Arca, and takes one of his usual headlong dips, with his clothes on. He then walks about for a few miles, till they become dry, when the plan pursued never fails to check the progress of his disorder.

On one occasion, when he was supposed to be dangerously ill, and his aged partner recommended him, for the first time, to have medical advice, he refused, and said he must have his old remedy, though he was sorry he could not take it in his old way. He then begged his wife to throw a pail of water on him in bed. The good woman, though she had no objections to give John a ducking, would not consent to do it in this way ; but with some assistance, placed the old man on the floor, and there drenched him to his heart's content. He was then put to bed again, where he slept soundly, and awakened quite refreshed next morning, ready to commence his usual perambulations.

Honest John has another propensity, but in which he does not stand single among his hardy countrymen. He has no objections, whilst his back is enjoying the mountain streams, that his stomach should be regaled with a drop of 'mountain dew.' It often

ppens that the latter proves an overdose, and poor John in the morning finds that he is not exempted from paying the usual debt of intemperance, in the form of headaches and lassitude. He does not, however, apply for relief in the ordinary way, by 'taking a run o' the dog that bit him.' His wife is obliged on to administer the never-failing restorative—John starts from his couch, and gets a few gallons of the Arca thrown over his person, and always with the desired effect.

Knill's Folly.

Near Mount's Bay in Cornwall, there is an artificial excavation in the rock, which has long been known by the name of 'Knill's Folly.' It derived its name from the late John Knill, Esq., of eccentric memory, by whose orders it was made, for the purpose of holding his remains, when his mortal career should be at an end. Mr. Knill was a native of Cornwall, but resided in Gray's Inn, London, where he died in 1811, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Although singular in his manners, he was a gentleman of great worth, and excellent understanding. He had a large circle of friends, by whom he was held in the highest esteem, and who would have been glad to contribute in any way to his gratification; but Mr. Knill had so profound an aversion for the superior comforts of that bachelor's best home, a tavern, that he invariably refused every invitation to dine, or to be in private. For many years before his death, it was his daily custom to leave his subscribers at noon, to walk for two or three hours about the town, make passing calls at the houses of his particular friends, and end the day's perambulation at Dolly's Chop-house, where he dined, and delighted to be merry. The conjugal state must be wed to stand supreme in its joys; but where the bachelor, who may not take comfort in the contemplation of such single blessedness as that of John Knill's?

Tax on Old Bachelors.

A bill having been brought into the House of Representatives of New York, to lay a tax upon bachelors above the age of twenty-eight, the encouragement of literature among old men, a meeting of upwards of two hundred bachelors, and others approximating to the state, was held, to take the measure into consideration. After a good deal of fine speaking, and many witty observations, the old bachelor in the room was called to the rostrum, when the following recital and resolutions were offered, and passed unanimously. Whereas it appears by the public papers, that a bill has been introduced into the legislature of this state, to lay a tax upon bachelors, In what manner the funds are to be raised, whether for the endowment of a library, in which old maids are to be employed as instructors, or whether to educate old maids in some of the useful and polite

branches of literature, that they may be enabled to get a living without an helpmate, is unknown to us, not having seen the said bill, or its provisions; but whatever may be the provisions of the said bill, we conceive it unconstitutional to lay a specific tax upon old bachelors, and calculated to produce much mischief in the community; because it will drive from the state many good citizens who prefer a life of celibacy; it will tend to increase bachelors, inasmuch as when women find they can be maintained in a single state, many will prefer that mode of life, and refuse all offers of matrimony; it will cause many bachelors to conceal their ages, and thereby lead them to tell untruths, which otherwise they never would have thought of; it will cause old maids to be ten times more intolerable than they usually are, by making them independent of husbands for a livelihood; it will have the effect to destroy that exquisite sensibility in men, who having lost their sweethearts by 'hook or crook,' have made pledge to do penance all their lives by living in a single state: it will lead many a man to enter into the holy bands of wedlock, without being guided by that bewitching and delectable passion, love (so essentially necessary to conjugal felicity), and hurry them to marry, merely to save the tax, and consequently produce many unhappy matches; for no marriage can be productive of happiness, without love.

Love is a curious thing, you know,
It makes one feel all over so.

'It will excite to a retaliation on the part of bachelors, and cause them to use their influence to get a tax upon old maids; thereby bringing on a civil war between old maids and bachelors, to the entire destruction of the peace of society, and there will be nothing to attend to but

Hear the pretty ladies talk,
Tittle tattle, tittle tattle.

'Therefore resolved, That we will use our most earnest exertions to prevent the passing of the above-named bill, which we consider unconstitutional, and fraught with the most alarming consequences to the peace and happiness of society.

'Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft a memorial to the legislature, praying that the bill may never be passed, and to obtain the signatures of all persons who are opposed to its passage.

'Resolved, That should the said bill be thrown under the table, we pledge ourselves to unite in the holy bands of marriage, as soon as we can find pretty creatures that will have us.

'Resolved, That we deeply commiserate the unfortunate situation in which many old maids are placed, though we are sensible that some of them are like

Jeremiah's figs—The good are very good;
The bad, too sour to give the pigs.

'Resolved, That it be recommended to establish a House of Industry for old maids, and

that old bachelors contribute towards their support, by giving them their linen to make, and their stockings to darn.

'Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be given to the landlord for the use of the room.

'It was moved and carried, That a committee of five gentlemen be appointed to draft a memorial to the legislature.

'It was also moved and carried, That the proceedings of the meeting be published in all the papers that will consent to do it without charge.

'A. WOLKERE, Chairman.

'D. K. T. SMYTHE, Sec.'

The bill was withdrawn.

The Best of Frolics.

The profligate Duke of Wharton being one day in company with Swift, recounted several extravagances he had run through. Swift kindly observed to him, 'You have had your frolics, my lord, let me recommend one more to you; take a frolic to be virtuous; take my word for it, that *one* will do you more honour, than all the other frolics of your whole life.'

Funeral Directions.

Diogenes said one day to his disciples, 'That he desired when he died, not to be buried, as the sun and rain would the sooner consume him.' His disciples remarked, that 'If he remained above ground, he would be devoured by dogs.' 'Then,' replied Diogenes, 'you must put a stick in my hands, that I may drive them away.' 'But,' resumed his followers, 'when dead, you will neither see nor feel anything.' 'You see,' said Diogenes, 'what fools you are; for if that be the case, what signifies by what I am devoured, or what becomes of me, as I shall be insensible to everything.'

Among the moderns, few have exhibited more of the same feeling with Diogenes, in this respect, than George Buchanan. When dying, he called for his servant, and asked him 'how much money he had remaining?' Finding that it would not be sufficient to defray the expenses of his interment, he desired that it should be distributed among the poor. 'But who then,' said the servant, 'will be at the expense of the funeral?' Buchanan replied, 'That he was very indifferent about that; for if he were once dead, if they would not bury him, they might let him lie where he was, or throw his corpse where they pleased.'

Lieutenant-General Henry Hawley, who died March 24, 1759, appears to have rivalled these cynics in their indifference to funeral honours. It is thus that he gives directions on the subject in his will: 'First, I direct and order, that (as there is now peace, and I may die the common way) my carcass may be put anywhere; it is equal to me, but I will have

no more expense or ridiculous show, than if a poor soldier (who is as good a man) was to be buried from the hospital. The priest, I conclude, will have his fee—let the puppy have it.—Pay the carpenter for the carcass-box.'

Lenglet du Fresncy.

The talents and services of the French writer Nicholas Lenglet du Fresnoy, acquired him many powerful patrons, who were well disposed to serve him in every possible way; yet from a waywardness in his conduct, his life was one continued series of adventures and misfortunes. His ruling passion was to live, think, act, and write, with a kind of cynical freedom; and though badly lodged, clothed, and fed, he was still satisfied, while at liberty to say and write what he pleased. This liberty, however, he carried to so great an extreme, and, in fact, so much abused, that he was sent to the Bastille no less than ten or twelve times. Lenglet bore all this, however, without murmuring, and no sooner found himself out of prison, than he set to work to get in again. At last, the Bastille became so familiar to him, that whenever Tapin, one of the life guards, who was usually commissioned to conduct him thither, entered his chamber, he would instantly hail him with an 'Ah! M. Tapin, good morning;' and then turning to the woman who waited upon him, he would tell her 'to bring his little bundle of linen and snuff directly.' When these were brought him; 'Now, M. Tapin,' he would say, with the gayest air imaginable, 'let us march.' This spirit of freedom and indifference, never left him; and to the last, he chose rather to live in a mean garret, than with a rich sister; at whose house he might have commanded every accommodation and luxury. Poor Lenglet; his end was melancholy! Returning home one evening, after dining with his sister, he sat down to read a new book, fell asleep over it, and dropping into the fire, was so much scorched, that he died before morning.

Naughty Book

The enthusiast, Nicolas Ferrar, three days before his death, ordered a place to be marked out for his grave; and when this had been done, he requested his brother, before all the family, to take out of his study three large lampers full of books, which had been packed up there for many years. 'They are,' continued he, 'comedies, tragedies, heroic poems, and romances; let them be immediately burnt upon the place marked out for my grave; and when you have so done, come and inform me.' When information was brought to him that they were all consumed, he desired that this act might be considered as a testimony of his disapprobation of all such productions, conceiving that they tend only to corrupt the mind of man, and are improper for any good Christian to read. On La Motte

ing told of this vagary, 'Aye,' said he, 'I'm sorry, as the testimony of *Nicolas Ferrar's* approbation, let it be considered.'

Blaise Pascal.

When the celebrated Blaise Pascal was but thirty years of age, imbibing certain peculiar sentiments of religion, he determined to abandon all farther thoughts of literary composition, and to forego every gratification in life. He resolved to spend the remainder of his days in retirement and pious meditation, and with this view he broke off all his former connections, changed his habitation, and in his solitude became so perfect a recluse, that he would scarcely speak to anybody, not even his own servants, whom he rarely admitted into his room. Although bred up with delicacy, and in opulence, he refused the assistance of a servant in the performance of anything which he could possibly do for himself. He made his own bed, brought his dinner from the kitchen, and carried back the plates and dishes in the evening; so that he left nothing for the servants to do but to go to market and cook for him. Although his continual infirmities made it of the utmost consequence that he should be choice in his food, although his servants observed great care in providing only what was excellent, he seemed never to relish what he ate, and absolutely indifferent whether it was good or bad. He ate only to satisfy the importunate cravings of hunger. In his chamber, nothing was to be seen but two or three chairs, a table, and a few books. It had no kind of ornament whatever; neither carpeting nor curtains. He received in it, nevertheless, the visits of some particular friends, and when they would express surprise at seeing him thus lonely lodged, he would reply that he had all that was necessary, and that to have more than necessary, would be unworthy of a wise man. He employed his time in reading the scriptures, in prayer, and in committing to memory such pious thoughts as occurred to him. Reason became at length in some degree dulled by his austere mode of life. At once he imagined that he always saw on one side of him a deep abyss, and would never sit down till a chair was placed there to secure him from the apprehended danger. At another time he was full of an extraordinary vision, in which he said he had been favoured, the particulars of which he committed to writing, and preserved during the remainder of his life, and used up between the cloth and lining of his bed. Every day he grew more and more morose, irritable, and superstitious: till at length, in his thirty-ninth year of his age, death put an end to his miseries.

Dread of being Forgotten.

An eccentric inhabitant of Hallaton, in Leicestershire, ambitious that his memory should be preserved by some means or other,

bequeathed a piece of land to the rector of the town for the time being, in trust, for providing 'Two hare pies, a quantity of ale, and two dozen penny loaves, to be scrambled for on Easter Monday, annually.' The land, before the enclosure system came into operation, was called, 'Harecrop Leys'; and at the time of dividing the fields, in 1770, a piece was allotted to the rector in lieu of the said leys. The custom is still continued; but instead of hare, the rector provides two large pies made of veal and bacon; these are divided into parts, and put into a sack; and about two gallons of ale in two wooden bottles without handles or strings are also put into a sack; the penny loaves are cut into quarters, and put in a basket. Thus prepared, the men leave the rectory, and are soon joined by the women and children, who march to a place called 'Hare-pie Bank,' about a quarter of a mile south of the town. In the course of this journey, the pieces of bread are occasionally thrown for scrambling: but the pies and ale are carried to the grand rustic theatre of confusion. This, in olden time (though not upon so great a scale, or destined for such bloody feats, as the Roman amphitheatres), consisted of a bank with a small trench round it, and a circular hole in the centre. Into this the pies and ale are promiscuously thrown, and every frolicsome athletic youth, who is fond of the sport, rushes forward to seize a bit, or bear away a bottle. Confusion ensues, and what began in puerile sport has occasionally terminated in a boxing match. Of late years, however, peace and hilarity have prevailed.

Indolence and its Rewards.

Thomas Rennell, the Devonshire artist, was a man of most extensive acquirements; he was not only an excellent painter, but a good chemist, and prepared most of his own colours; a tasteful performer and a fine composer of music; an ingenious mechanic, and no mean poet; but withal, excessively indolent. When settled at Plymouth, the Duke and Duchess of Kingston were so much struck with some of his paintings, that they endeavoured to draw him from his obscurity by a promise of a residence in their house in London, and the exertion of their interest in his favour; but he refused their offer. From Plymouth he went to Portsmouth, where he lived, or rather existed, for nearly twenty years, in great poverty. He has sometimes lain in bed for a whole week, in very cold weather, without any other subsistence than a cake and water, being in want of almost every necessary of life.

Although at times Rennell would paint, yet he was generally negligent and improvident; his art had only its turn with his other amusements, and if a picture was completed in twelve months, it was thought very expeditious. Rennell, like many other great geniuses, was an entire stranger to frugality; no sooner was he in possession of a few pounds, but every strange object that presented itself,

and was within the compass of his pocket, was bought immediately.

The blunt sincerity of Rennell rendered his manners displeasing to the rich and powerful, whom he would never flatter, but whose vices and follies were often the object of his satire.

Franklin.

'Friend Franklin,' said Myers Fisher, a celebrated Quaker lawyer of Philadelphia, one day, 'thee knows almost everything; can thee tell me how I am to preserve my small-beer in the back-yard? my neighbours are often tapping it of nights.'

'Put a barrel of old Madeira by the side of it,' replied the doctor; 'let them but get a taste of the Madeira, and I'll engage they will never trouble thy small-beer any more.'

Swift's Last Lines.

In one of those lucid intervals which varied the course of Swift's unhappy lunacy, his guardians, or physicians, took him out to give him an airing. When they came to the Phoenix Park, Swift remarked a new building which he had never seen, and asked what it was designed for? Dr. Kingsbury answered, 'That, Mr. Dean, is the magazine for arms and powder, for the security of the city.' 'Oh! oh!' says the dean, pulling out his pocket-book, 'let me take an item of that. This is worth remarking; my tablets, as Hamlet says, my tablets—memory put down that.' He then produced the following lines, being the last he ever wrote:

Behold a proof of Irish sense!

Here Irish wit is seen,

When nothing's left for our defence,

We build a magazine.

The dean then put up his pocket-book, laughing heartily at the conceit, and clenching it with, 'After the steed's stolen, shut the stable door.'

Jedediah Buxton.

This extraordinary man, whose skill with respect to calculations, excited so much curiosity about the middle of the last century, was so neglected in his education, that he was never taught to write; and with respect to any other knowledge but that of numbers, was always as ignorant as a child. How he came first to know the relative proportions of numbers and their progressive denominations, he did not remember; but to this he employed the whole force of his mind; and his attention was so constantly fixed on the subject, that he frequently took no notice of external objects. Though ignorant of the common rules of arithmetic, as taught in the schools, yet if any space of time was mentioned, he would, without the use of the pen, pencil, or chalk, and by mere mental calculation, tell you how many minutes it contained. Mention but a

distance, and he would assign the number of hairs' breadths, without any question being asked, or any calculation expected, by the company.

Jedediah would pace a piece of land, or a field, and ascertain the contents almost as exactly as if measured by a chain. In this manner he measured the whole lordship of Elmtou, of some thousand acres, belonging to Sir John Rhodes, to whom he presented the aggregate contents, not only in acres, roods, and perches, but even in square inches. After this, for his own amusement, he reduced the whole into hair breadths. His memory was so great, that while solving a question, he could leave off, and resume the operation next morning, a week, a month, or even several months, afterwards, until completed.

When he went to church, he never could recollect one word of the sermon, or of the text, but occupied himself with some calculation. This extraordinary person lived in laborious poverty; time with him changed nothing but his age; he was a farmer's labourer from his youth, and such he died. In 1754, he visited London, and exhibited his extraordinary powers before the Royal Society, who dismissed him with a handsome gratuity. During his residence in London, he was taken to Drury Lane Theatre, to see *Richard III.* performed; and it was expected that the novelty and splendour of the show would have fixed him in astonishment, and kept his imagination in a continual hurry; or that his passions would in some degree have been touched by the power of Garrick's acting. But Jedediah's mind was employed in the theatre, as it was in every other place. During the dance, he fixed his attention on the number of steps; and as to the music, he only regretted that it perplexed him so much, that he could not calculate the innumerable sounds produced by the instruments. Even Garrick was only listened to in order that he might count the number of words he uttered, and in which he perfectly succeeded. Jedediah returned to his labours in the country, uncontaminated by town manners, and still continued to prefer a slice of rusty bacon, to the luxuries of the epicure.

A Genealogy Hunter.

Frederic of Saxony, surnamed the Sage, rendered his claim to this title doubtful, by his attention to the descent of his family. A celebrated genealogist had told him, that a copy of his pedigree was preserved in Noah's Ark. To substantiate this account, the prince neglected all affairs of state, to the great regret of his ministers, who remonstrated with him on the absurdity, but all to no purpose. At length his cook, who was his favourite buffoon, desired an audience of him, when he told the emperor, that this curiosity to know his origin was neither useful nor honourable. 'At present,' said the jester, 'I look upon you as subordinate only to the Deity; but if you search into Noah's ark, perhaps I shall discover

at you and I are cousins, as we have all our relations there.' What the serious advice of his ministers could not effect, was performed by the emperor's cook.

Magliabechi.

Magliabechi, the celebrated librarian of Florence, lived, ate, drank, and slept among books; he lived in the most sequestered and philosophical manner, scarcely ever leaving the city. His house was but one continued room of books; his lower rooms were crowded with them, not only along the wainscot, but piled to a considerable height, and so spread the floor, that there was not the least place for sitting down, much less for walking, except a long narrow passage, leading from one room to the other. The porch of this house was, in the same manner, everywhere stuffed with books, as far as the projecting awning could secure them from rain. The staircase was lined all the way up with this library furniture, as were all the upper rooms.

Magliabechi generally shut himself up all day, and opened his doors in the evening for the men of letters who came to converse with him. His attention was so absorbed in his studies, that he often forgot the calls of nature. He was negligent in his person: he was usually dressed in black, with a coat reaching to his knees. His cloak, which was also black, served him for a morning-gown in the day, and for bedclothes at night; it was generally much patched, in consequence of the holes he burnt in it. He wore a large hat, and a Florentine band round his neck. On one arm he carried a stick in which was a constant fire for warming his hands, and his clothes bore evidence of being often too nearly connected with it. His linen he usually wore until it fell to shreds. He always slept on his books; bound cushions served him for a mattress, those in his bed for a pillow, and he covered himself with such as were merely stitched, throwing his cloak over all. His sole diet was eggs, bread, and water.

The Grand Duke of Florence, Cosmo II., when Magliabechi was librarian, once pressed on him to take up his residence in the Grand Palace; but he quitted it four months afterwards, and returned to his own house: indeed, though he rarely stirred out, yet he had such an aversion to everything that did like restraint, that the grand duke disdained with his personal attendance, and contented him with orders in writing.

Pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

Whaley, whose volatile disposition led him to sacrifice a fine estate in a few years, died some time in Dublin, where he lived in the most expensive manner. Soon getting tired of the insipid tanniness of this mode of life, he determined to revisit the continent. He was hesitating as to the exact place

of destination, some friends with whom he was dining, and who had heard that he intended to go abroad, inquired whither he was going? He hastily answered, 'to Jerusalem.' Being convinced that he had no such intention, they offered to lay him a considerable wager that he would not walk thither. Although when he gave the answer to their inquiries, he had not the most distant idea of such a pilgrimage, yet, stimulated by the offers made to him, he accepted bets to the amount of £15,000. A few days served to complete his arrangements; he set out, accomplished his journey, and returned to Dublin within the time to which he was limited, when he received from his antagonists the reward of his unexpected exploit.

'Will with the Golden Whiskers.'

The Rev. William Hollings, of St. Omer Street, Hereford, who died in 1820, officiated many years as curate of Ulingswick, but left the situation in disgust, vowing that he would never resume his clerical functions. This resolution, which he strictly adhered to during the remainder of his life, originated in the refusal of his patron to appoint him to the vacant benefice in 1789, although recommended by the parishioners.

From that time he became avaricious and eccentric. His dress was shabby, and his appearance extremely grotesque. The capacity of the pockets seemed to be the principal object in the construction of his coat; it was formed of cloth of the coarsest texture, originally of a black colour, but the effect of time had strongly tinged it with the *Verde antique* so valuable in the eye of the antiquary; his waistcoat was of similar materials, and being prudently fitted with long pockets, in compliment to his coat, was met above his knees by a pair of worsted boot-stockings; his hat was round and shallow; his hair was sandy; and despising the vain control of a black and bushy wig, it acquired for him the title of *'Will with the golden whiskers.'* The mother of Mr. H. lived with him to the time of her death, which occurred about thirty years before that of her son; she left a set of *chemises* nearly new, and the circumstance of her son's wearing and washing them afterwards, might be concealed from history, had he not often been observed to place them on the drying line in his garden. Other parts of the wardrobe of his father and mother, which even Mr. Hollings's ingenuity could not adapt to his own personal uses, were found in the house at his death, and afford no bad specimens of the costume which prevailed in the reign of George II.

His house and furniture strictly corresponded with his own appearance; no domestics of any description were admitted within his walls, lest they should rob him; and every office, whether culinary or otherwise, was performed by himself. His diet was cheap and homely; three pennyworth of tripe, and a quart of water, in which it had been boiled,

occasionally constituted, with the aid of a six-penny loaf, two meals of more than usual indulgence. The cooking on these occasions was simple : it consisted in soaking the crumb, hollowed out from the loaf, in the liquor of the tripe, for one day's repast ; and in placing the tripe itself in the cavity of the loaf, for the next day's junket. A steak was a luxury.

Mr. Hollings's gun, and his fishing rod, afforded a casual supply of provision ; but his principal reliance was on the bounty of his relatives, or the donations of the numerous friends, who, from their own assiduities, or his professions, considered themselves reasonable expectants of his property. He used to leave his bed at the earliest hour, in pursuit of some kind of game or other : if he was observed in a wood, his gun was his excuse ; if near a river, his rod, while the fishing basket on his back answered the double purpose of containing plunder, and concealing the hole in his coat. On one of these marauding expeditions (when hares were often mistaken for rabbits, and tame ducks for wild ones), he had the good fortune to discover, in his favourite walk on the bank of the river Lugg, the mutilated remains of a large-sized pike, which, after glutting the appetite of the otter, was destined to be the prey of our hero, and supplied him with at least half a score of dinners of unusual splendour. On another occasion of a similar nature, he was apprehended whilst sitting near the confines of a wood, and watching for game within the circuit of the adjoining field, which he had marked out by sticks placed in the ground to show the distances at which he might depend on the effects of his gun, with the least possible risk of discharging it to no purpose. The gamekeepers conducted him in custody to the lord of the preserve ; mutual congratulations ensued, on the apprehension of the grand poacher, who had so long eluded their vigilance ; and his capacious and distended pockets were unloaded before the party. Great, however, were their surprise and disappointment, when, instead of the game expected, these ample pockets were found to contain merely a miscellaneous collection of potatoes, sticks, turnips, glass phials, and hogshead bungs, all of which he had purloined from a neighbouring cottage, in which he obtained shelter from a storm. Thus, if feather, and fur, and fishes failed, his resources were still unexhausted : the turnip fields, or the hedges, could always assist him. On his removal from one house to another, he filled three hogsheads with broken sticks, which he had thus acquired, and he nearly preserved that quantity in his garret, to his death, by almost daily, or rather nightly, supplies.

In his usual walks, he formed many intimacies with the cottagers of the district, and under pretence of remembering them in his will, he often put them to the expense of maintaining him for a week. From his more able friends, he frequently solicited the gift of a hare, which he turned to good account, by fixing a long residence with some other friend, to whom he presented it. An unpleasant

rebuff once accompanied an application of this kind. A gentleman of Hinton made it an indispensable condition of a compliance with this request, that the applicant should prove, that on some one occasion of his life, he had given away anything which cost him the value of the hare. It is superfluous to add, that the condition was impracticable.

Mr. Hollings's garden contained a pear-tree of unusual merit ; and to prevent any loss from complying with the wishes of his friends for a supply of its gifts, he regularly procured, at the proper season, a large bough from some other and inferior stock, and substituted its branches for those of the favourite tree. He once possessed more extensive property in land, which being situated in the centre of a worthy baronet's demesne, was purchased at a price nearly double its worth ; but Mr. H. long repented the sale, from an idea that under all the circumstances of the case, a still greater price might possibly have been extorted.

Mr. Hollings was never married ; but notwithstanding all his eccentricities, he had the merit of great devotion to the female sex ; and the faithless promise of his mother's black silk cloak has induced many a fair damsel to indulge him with her society.

About six weeks before his death he abruptly, and hastily, pressed immediate payment of interest and principal, from a tradesman who had joined with another person in giving security for £100 for the use of the latter. The interest was paid and an acknowledgment given on unstamped paper. The party feeling himself aggrieved, laid an information against him, and the penalty of £5 was exacted. This was his death-blow. In his own words, from that moment, he 'could neither eat, nor drink, nor sleep.' Under this mental depression he lingered about five weeks, gradually declining in health and spirits, until the morning of the 26th of March, when, after forcing the street door, he was found dead in a miserable house, in a miserable room, and on a miserable bed ; without an attendant, without fire, without sheets, without curtains, and without any other visible comfort. The scene which succeeded bids defiance to description ; none but those who have witnessed the effects of a London hoax, filling all the streets with applicants of all descriptions, can form an idea of what occurred. Wives, widows, and maids urged the promises they had received ; parsons and proctors, lawyers and doctors, assembled on the spot ; one person required remuneration for drugs, another for drams, a third for dinners, and a fourth for cider ; in short, the demands, the expectations, and the confusion, seemed universal ; and on unfolding his will, it appeared that, with the exception of a few trifling legacies, his relatives were wholly excluded, his expectants disappointed, and a property of about £3000 was divided, to their great surprise, between a respectable yeoman in the county, and a gentleman who managed his pecuniary concerns in the city. Of the hospitalities of the former, he had only occasionally

taken; and the latter had excited his particular favour by returning a five-pound note, which Mr. Hollings had placed in his hands, and the deposit he intended to have made. On this occasion Mr. H. emphatically exclaimed, 'Then there is one honest man in the land!'

Thus he lived, and thus died, the Rev. William Hollings. He was buried at Withington, to the salute of a merry peal of bells, as ordered by his will, and ordered to be read, on a suitable endowment, during the hours, on every anniversary of his funeral.

Hedgehog Tamer.

An old man, who called himself William Low, Esquire, died at Ludlow in the year 1807.

He was well known to many persons, and to his neighbours, for having, some years ago, tamed two hedgehogs as to make them circulate the streets with him in a degree of discipline and subjection which astonished the holders. In the early part of his life he was a soldier, and served under 'the old Cock of the Rock,' during its siege by the Spaniards. In his latter years he was chiefly supported by the bounty of his opulent and benevolent neighbours. Though in the utmost degree of age and wretchedness, he would never allow himself to receive parochial relief; and having £7, he deposited it in the hands of a friend, for the express purpose of defraying his funeral expenses, that even his interment should not be chargeable to the parish funds. The sum, three-fourths remained untouched till the day of his death. During several years, his physical lameness, occasioned and confirmed by a hard manner of living, compelled him to go upon crutches. In principle he was honest; in manners civil and inoffensive, except when inebriated, as he often was, and on donations of travellers and military officers; on which occasions he was frequently seen at home in a single-wheeled chariot, to the small amusement of boys and children to see his anger grow.

Lottery Speculation.

Christopher Bartholomew, who was formerly of White Conduit House Tea Garden, at the Angel Inn, at the top of the City, exhibited a singular instance of attachment to speculating in the lottery, amidst all the vicissitudes of fortune. He rented a small mount of £200 a year in the neighbourhood of Islington and Holloway; and was remarkable for having the greatest quantity of land of any grower in the neighbourhood. At that time he is believed to have worth £50,000; kept his carriage and was in livery; and upon one occasion, he had been unusually successful at insuring in the lottery, gave a public breakfast at his house, 'to commemorate the smiles of fortune,' as it was expressed upon the tickets in relation to this *fête champêtre*. He had

at times some fortunate hits in the lottery, which perhaps tended to increase the mania which hurried him to his ruin. He has been known to spend upwards of two thousand guineas in a day for insurance, to raise which, stacks after stacks of his immense crops of hay have been cut down, and hurried to market, as the readiest way to obtain the supplies necessary for these extraordinary outgoings. Having at last been obliged to part with his house, from accumulated difficulties and embarrassments, he passed the last thirteen years of his life in great poverty, subsisting by the charity of those who knew his better days, and the emolument he received as a jurymen of the Sheriffs' Court for the county. Still his propensity to be engaged in this ruinous pursuit never forsook him; and meeting one day, in the year 1807, with an old acquaintance, he related to him a strong presentiment he entertained, that if he could purchase a particular number in the ensuing lottery (which he was not then in a situation to accomplish), it would prove successful. His friend, after remonstrating with him on the impropriety of persevering in a practice that had been already attended with such evil consequences, was at last persuaded to go halves with him in a sixteenth part of the favourite number, which being procured, was most fortunately drawn a prize of £20,000. With the money arising from this extraordinary turn of fortune, he was prevailed upon by his friends to purchase an annuity of £60 per annum; yet, fatally addicted to the pernicious habit of insurance, he disposed of it, and lost it all. He has been known frequently to apply to those persons who had been served by him in his prosperity for an old coat, or some other article of cast-off apparel; and not many days before he died, he solicited a few shillings to save him from starving.

A Platonist.

Footes is said, in the characters of Dr. Last and Johnny Macpherson, to have caricatured a physician of his acquaintance, of the name of Leeds, and a teacher of languages, named John Fransham, with whom the doctor privately endeavoured to make up the deficiencies of a neglected education. Fransham was, indeed, an extraordinary original. His physiognomy reminded one of the portrait of Erasmus, and it had this in common with the busts of Plato, that there were two tips to the nose. His countenance was sedate, and expressive of great intellect; his complexion dusky; his grey hair hung loose about his shoulders, and gave a high air of the antique to his bust. For clothes, he wore a short green jacket, drab-coloured breeches, worsted stockings, and large shoes; and seldom, if ever, did he vary his attire. The history of this oddity was curious. He was the son of the clerk of St. George's parish, Norwich. At the age of fifteen, he was bound an apprentice to a cooper at Wymondham; but in less than two years after, a legacy of twenty-

five pounds having fallen to him, he deserted the employment, and resolved to devote himself to literary pursuits. He had already acquired the elements of reading, writing, and cyphering; as also the rudiments of Latin. He now applied to the study of mathematics; and under the tuition of Mr. Hemmingway, a land-surveyor, attained to great proficiency in this science. His twenty-five pounds, however, were soon exhausted; and his parents not being in circumstances to maintain him in learned idleness, he was obliged to give up his plan of constant study, and to devote a great portion of his time to the copying of law papers, as a means of subsistence. He did not, however, submit to this drudgery long; for in 1748, being then in his eighteenth year, he again broke loose. He strolled to Yarmouth, and embarked for North Shields, intending to make a tour of the Scottish Highlands, and to know by personal inspection, a people of whom he had heard much to excite his curiosity and wonder. When he reached Newcastle, he formed an acquaintance there with some soldiers belonging to the regiment of Old Buffs; and tempted, probably, by the prospect of leisure which a military life presented, he enlisted in the corps. On examining, however, this philosophical recruit, it was discovered that he was too bandy-legged for a soldier, and he was, therefore, not accepted. The gaiety of his new associates had, in the meantime, made such inroads on his pecuniary resources, that he found himself obliged to abandon his intention of visiting Scotland, and turned his face again towards the south. With great difficulty, he managed to reach Norwich, with a residue of only three halfpence; and, having no other resource, was obliged to return to the spiritless occupation of copying for attorneys. What time he could spare from this employment, he devoted to study: perfecting himself in the Latin and mathematics, and soaring often into the loftiest regions of metaphysical science. Plato, Cicero, Shaftesbury, Middleton, and Hume, became his favourite authors, and for the last, especially, he conceived so profound an admiration, that he styled him the 'Prince of Philosophers,' and became a convert to all his principles. So thoroughly sceptical was he now, that scarcely a sentence could be uttered in his hearing, or any information communicated in his presence, without his rejoining, 'Are you sure that is true? On what do you ground your belief?' Fransham found, at length, a patron in the head of the Chute family, with whom his sister lived as house-keeper. He was allowed to reside in their house at Norwich, and the free use of the library. He had not, however, long enjoyed this philosophical repose, when one night in bed, he imagined that his patron, who was ill at Pickenham, would not live to return to Norwich, and related his ideal terror to the servants. Mr. Chute actually died that night; and Fransham always described this as an act of divination, as if he were no less favoured than the seers of antiquity. After

the loss of this patron, Fransham hired a garret in Norwich, kept a school there, and was attended by fifteen or twenty scholars. His confinement was now close, and his income barely sufficient for wants narrowed to monastic privation. His health suffered; he took rapid solitary walks during the morning and twilight, wrapped in a tartan plaid, which he had bought for his Scotch excursion, with a broad hat slouched over his eyes, and his hands behind him. His usual stroll was to Mosswood Heath, and it was supposed that he often stopped there the whole night. When wet weather prevented him from stirring abroad, he would exercise himself by beating a drum, blowing a hautboy, or playing at marbles. Being in want of fuel, on one occasion, to 'boil his kettle, he was under the necessity of burning his hautboy, and was never able to buy a new one. He supplied the place of it, however, by a cane chair, on which he used to rattle his drum sticks with as much ardour, as if he had been beating a charge in battle. Fransham became, at last, himself an author. In 1769, he gave to the press, his 'Cestrum of Orpheus,' a book in which he showed himself to have imbibed a large share of the Platonic opinions. Having rejected the religion of his fathers, and confining his studies almost exclusively to the ancient writers, Fransham's mind insensibly filled up the blank occasioned by the effacement of hereditary notions, with ideas derived from Greek mythology. Like the Platonists of Alexandria, he endeavoured to give an allegorical turn to the fables of Paganism, which might enable him, without inaccuracy, to speak of them as truths. Such euphemisms abounded in his conversation. Having been advised to take chicken broth for the headache, he called it sacrificing a cock to Esculapius. He lost for a time, through inflammation, the sight of one eye, which recovered on a change of the weather from warm to cold. This incident he described as a miracle; said that he had prayed for relief to Juno the power presiding over the atmosphere; and that she had given it. In the year 1770, a stranger undertook to publish, every Tuesday, in Norwich, a satirical paper, called *Rotic Suap*, which was modelled after the *Tatler*, and sold at one penny. The editor engaged Fransham's assistance, and obtained from him several contributions; but the work soon expired of neglect. Fransham, however, was so pleased with the task, that he continued to provide his paper weekly, long after the publication had ceased. In 1771, the gadfly, to use an expression of his own, stung him again. With the little accumulations of his pedagogical industry, Fransham suddenly set off for London, and established himself near Hyde Park Corner. One of his chief objects, was the publication of several manuscripts which he had prepared with that view; among which, was a 'Life of Lycurgus,' the 'Scheme of a Perfect Government,' and a 'Synopsis of Classical Philosophy.' But being unable to meet with any bookseller who would risk the expense of publishing them, he was obliged

in to have recourse to private tuition. It now that he became acquainted with Dr. Foote, and through him, with Foote, who he paid the penalty of public ridicule, and the honour of his notice.

In 1772, Fransham returned to Norwich, where he passed the rest of his days, occupied entirely in teaching and writing. He used to calculate that the average pay of his pupils was threepence an hour, and the average income of his life eight shillings a week; yet, on these narrow means, so severe was his frugality, that he progressively bettered his situation. He practised and exacted a punctilious pecuniary probity, and could not bear the loan of a penny should go unpaid.

A friend of Fransham's, who died in 1796, Thomas Goff, left orders by his will that his body should be separated from his body in his interment, some persons whom he had having recovered in their coffins. The taint of the signs of death, probably through Mr. Goff's conversation, had also left an impression on the mind of Fransham. Instead of being buried alive, he repeatedly declared that his body should be laid before a hat wine should be offered to his lips, the arms of a woman clasped about his neck before he was given up as irrecoverable.

He became conscious of the approach of death, he encountered it with fortitude. On the 1st of February, 1810, he expired, calmly and contentedly, leaving, besides his books and a few articles of furniture, a hoard of ninety-nine shillings to his sister.

Fransham, says the writer of a memoir of an eccentric individual, was one who thought as he pleased, spoke as he thought, did as he pleased, and countenanced in others a similar eccentricity. His conversation was interesting by its singularity, by its studiously simple character, by its carrying back the conversation to the porticoes of the Serapeum, by its disdain of transient topics, and by its constant antipathy to prejudice and superstition; yet it depended latterly, at least, on remembered than on immediate recollection, and drew from the cistern more than it poured out.

Chapelle and Boileau.

A well-known French writer, Chapelle, was a man of rare character. He was learned, and a pedantry in his conversation; he was fond of drollery, was fond of society, and his company was universally coveted. It was his fortune, however, to be too fond of his friends, and his friends were anxious to cure him of so pernicious a habit. Boileau, who had a sincere affection for him, undertook to reach him out of it. One day he met him in the streets of Paris, and immediately began his lecture; he talked so powerfully that Chapelle listened to him with great attention; they walked on, Chapelle observed that they were just opposite to a tavern. He says he, 'let us just step into this at I may hear what you have to say,

at leisure, and without disturbance; for, upon my word, my dear friend, you have moved me greatly.' A bottle of wine was called for, then another, and after that, another, for Boileau thought it best to press the argument while his penitent was warm, and under conviction. In short, the converter and converted took so hearty a dose that the tavern-keeper thought proper to have them both carried home to their beds.

Polite Apology.

In October, 1747, his majesty's ship *Dartmouth*, of fifty guns, commanded by Captain James Hamilton, being closely engaged off Cape St. Vincent with the *Glorioso*, Spanish man-of-war, blew up, and all the crew, amounting to three hundred men, perished, except seventeen, who were taken up by the boats of the *Prince Frederick* and *Duke* privateers, then in company. Of these, none was of any rank, except Mr. O'Brien, a young gentleman of Ireland, one of the lieutenants. He was taken up, floating on the carriage of a gun, on which he had been blown out of the ship into the water, and speedily recovered his senses. He was a gentleman of easy behaviour, and great readiness of wit. On seeing the captain of the *Prince Frederick*, his first words to him were these:—'Sir, you must excuse the unfitness of my dress to come aboard a stranger ship; but really I left my own in such a hurry, that I had not time to stay for a change of apparel.'

The Emperor Joseph.

The Emperor Joseph II., when at Paris, amused himself daily by mixing with the people, and often going into the coffee-houses *incognito*. On one of these occasions he met with a person with whom he played at chess. The emperor lost the game, and wished to play another; but the gentleman desired to be excused, saying he must go to the Opera to see the emperor. 'What do you expect to see in the emperor?' said Joseph, 'there is nothing worth seeing in him; I can assure you he is just like any other man.' 'No matter,' said the gentleman, 'I have long had an irresistible curiosity to see him; he is a very great man, and I will not be disappointed.' 'And is that really your only motive,' said the emperor, 'for going to the Opera?' 'It really is,' replied the gentleman. 'Well, then,' said the emperor, 'if that is the case, we may as well play another game now, for you see him before you.'

Stopping the Mouth.

The phrase of *stopping a person's mouth*, who from being a professed enemy, is brought over to our interest, first came into vogue in the reign of James the First. It is said to have originated in the following laughable incident:—

Gondemar, the Spanish minister, had dealt out his bribes to the ladies as well as the gentlemen of the court, in order to make them speak favourably of the match between Prince Charles and the Infanta of Spain. The nation, in general, were against the marriage. Gondemar applied his master's treasure to remove the prejudices of the courtiers of each sex. He became, through this means, so great a favourite with the ladies, that as he passed in his litter to the court, they would approach the balconies, or windows, to pay him their compliments.

Lady Jacobs had a house in Drury-lane, which was at that time a fashionable part of the town. Gondemar passing one day by the house of Lady Jacobs, her ladyship approached the window; Gondemar bowed most profoundly; the lady returned the compliment only with a gaze. Gondemar ascribed this to a sudden fit of yawning; but yet he thought she might have expressed some token of respectful salutation. He was resolved to try her the next day, and accordingly ordered his coachman to drive by her house. Lady Jacobs appeared at the window; Gondemar stopped, and bowed with all the graciousness imaginable. His civilities were returned only with an extended mouth; she even opened her mouth wider than she had done on the preceding day. Gondemar was now satisfied that this must be something more than a fit of yawning; he sent one of his gentlemen to Lady Jacobs to know the reason of her conduct, as he had not been accustomed to experience such affronts from the ladies of England. Lady Jacobs said, 'It was very true that Gondemar had purchased some of their favours at a dear rate, but he should consider that she had a *mouth to be stopped* as well as the rest of her countrywomen.'

Gondemar taking the hint, sent her a handsome present, which cured her of her gaping disorder; and whenever he afterwards passed by her house, she was sure to drop him a most becoming curtsy.

Mr. Oldys.

The historian Oldys having been for several years in the Fleet Prison, had contracted such habits and connexions, that when he was at length enlarged, he made it a frequent practice to spend his evenings there, and lodge with some friends all night. Knocking at the gate of the Fleet Prison one night rather late, the keeper reprimanded him for giving him such constant trouble, adding that though he had a great regard for him, yet if he kept such hours in future, he must be under the necessity of locking him out.

Sir Richard Hill.

One of the amiable eccentricities of Sir Richard Hill, was his great consideration for his servants and his horses: and it is a fact, that after being set down at the House of Commons, which he very regularly attended,

if the weather threatened to be bad, he would direct the coachman to return immediately, and rather than keep his domestics, and horses, exposed to its vicissitudes, he would himself brave its inclemency, at all hours, in a walk from Westminster to his house in Harley Street.

Acting on this principle, he supported Mr. Dent's bill, in 1802, for preventing bull-baiting, and begged leave 'to speak in behalf of a race of poor friendless beings, who certainly could not speak for themselves.' After quoting several apposite passages from the Proverbs of Solomon, and the writings of Sir Matthew Hale, in opposition to cruelty to beasts, he jocularly observed, 'that as the gentlemen of Ireland had been so favourable to their own *bulls*, he was sure they would be no less indulgent to ours.'

Lord Rokeby.

Lord Rokeby, among many other singularities, suffered his beard to grow for many years, during which time, it attained a most patriarchal length. He was very fond of sea-bathing, and built a hut on the beach near Hythe, about three miles from his own house, whither he repaired almost every day. He was generally accompanied in these excursions by a carriage, and a favourite servant; but his lordship always went on foot, with his hat under his arm. If it happened to rain, he would make the attendants get into the carriage, observing, that as they were gaily dressed, and not inured to wet, the rain would spoil their clothes, and give them cold. So fond was his lordship of bathing that he lived a considerable portion of his time in water, tempered by the rays of the sun. For this purpose, he had a bathing house of considerable extent, glazed in front, to a south-eastern aspect, and thatched at the top. It was so large, that he could run round it and dry himself, and the floor was boarded and matted.

Lord Rokeby had a great abhorrence of fires in his rooms; and even in winter, generally sat with his windows open. In his diet, he was singular and abstemious; his principal food was beef tea, which was always ready for him on the sideboard; he drank no wine, and had a great aversion to everything that was exotic, it being his maxim, that this island produced sufficient food for the nourishment of man.

In his park, he kept no deer, but had it plentifully stocked with black cattle, which had full liberty to range over the domain uninterrupted. Though no infidel, he never went to church, the path to which, from his house, was grown over, and his pew left to the same decay as his family coach, which he never entered. This circumstance once occasioned him some embarrassment.

The Archbishop of Annagh, who was cousin to Lord Rokeby, paid him a visit a short time before his death, at his seat in Kent. The archbishop gave him notice on the Saturday

he would dine with him on the following day. 'I gave orders,' says his lordship, 'relating this anecdote, for dinner, and so on, for my cousin, the archbishop, but I thought, till he came, that the next day Sunday. What was I to do? here was my cousin, the archbishop, and he must go to church, and there was no way to it; the great door, too, had been locked up these many years, and my pew was certainly not fit for grace. I sent off immediately to Hythe, for the carpenters, and the joiners, and the masons; and into the village for the labourers, the tanners, and the gravel carters. All went to work: the path was moved; the gravel was taken on and rolled; a gate made for the churchyard; a new pew set up, well lined and painted; and the next day, I walked by the side of my cousin, the archbishop, to church, and found everything right and proper." All his eccentricities, Lord Rokeby was a good landlord, a kind friend, and an amiable hospitable man.

Mr. Jennings.

Henry Constantine Jennings, whose character, dress, manners, and pursuits were as variable as his fate, underwent the ever-varying ebbs and flows of fortune, with philosophical indifference. At an early period of his life, he went to Italy, to pay his devotions at the tomb of his father; and after keeping company with foreign princes and princesses, he returned to associate with the nobility of his country. A fatal reverse plunged him into difficulties, and he passed some years in debt. Recovering from his embarrassment, he threw another fortune away at the market. These reverses occurred frequently, until at length he died in prison for

life, and a considerable portion of his property was devoted to forming a collection of books of vertu, which he commenced at once by purchasing a fine marble statue of Alcibiades, whence he was afterwards called 'Dog Jennings,' and by some of his friends, 'Alcibiades.' When Mr. Jennings had finished his career on earth, by the loss of his fortune, he settled in the sea. His mansion, which had formerly been the residence of the Earl of Buckingham, was singularly furnished. In the parlour, was an immense Arctic bear, of a rich colour, and a winged animal, much like a griffin, but which appeared to have been made of eagle. His garden bore no marks of neglect, or the pruning knife; the shrubs were allowed to grow wildly luxuriant, while the walks exhibited every mark of neglect or want of care.

Mr. Jennings was a great advocate for exercise, and practised it to a degree scarcely credible, for upwards of half a century. He used a long and ponderous wooden staff, capped with lead at both ends, in the management of which he was such an expert, that he boasted of having disarmed the

best small swordsman in Italy. Every night, before bedtime, he exercised himself with this ponderous weapon, until he acquired a comfortable warmth, which enabled him to retire to rest with a general glow. 'In the morning,' says he, 'I flourish my broadsword exactly three hundred times; I then mount my chaise horse, composed of leather, and inflated with wind like a pair of bellows, on which I take exactly a thousand gallops.' His breakfast was served at a late hour, and on a dirty tablecloth; his tea-service, which was of beautiful porcelain, he always washed and wiped himself. His bread and butter were regularly brought up on wooden platters; and instead of a silver trowel, he used a clasp knife, a large and vulgar instrument he used to carry in his pocket, and which consisted of a piece of pointed iron, that folded into a horn handle, and seemed to have descended to him, as an heir-loom, from the time of William Rufus.

His dinner was generally very economical; and in the afternoon, he used to drink a few cups of hyson, out of a very small China cup.

Mr. Jennings was very suspicious, and would not trust his servants to clean out his rooms. It was this that made his drawing-room a den, which abounded in dirt, which rendered it impossible to sit down without spoiling your clothes. His chairs, pictures, and even the very cabinets that contained his precious gems, jewels, and shells, were all covered and besmeared with smoke and dust. The ashes were never emptied from his grate, until it became so full, that the operation was one of absolute necessity.

He was very particular in regard to his candles; the very idea of tallow, disgusted him, and he burnt nothing but wax candles. The clothes of Mr. Jennings were very antiquated, and his coat was set with silver buttons, nearly as large as a dollar. His stockings were of yarn; while his shoes, or rather half boots, exhibited the original colour which they had at first assumed in the tan-pit. Through the long period of thirty-eight years, they had been kept sacred from the pollution of the blacking brush.

Among all the articles of value and curiosity that he possessed, Mr. Jennings prized a statue of 'Venus' above all others; and for the first six months after obtaining possession of her, she was constantly seated during dinner at the head of his table, with two footmen in laced liveries behind, while the most costly viands were placed in succession before her, by way of oblation.

Death, which puts an end to all singularities, is not always unaccompanied by them. Mr. Jennings abhorred the idea of his corpse being consigned to the cold earth, and resolved to have recourse to the ancient rite of cremation. This intention was so well known, that his neighbours supposed he had an oven within his house for the express purpose of reducing his body to ashes. Having fixed on a gentleman in the vicinity, on whom he thought he could depend, for seeing this last act of friendship faithfully executed, he unfolded to him his intention, and demanded if

he had courage enough, despising all vulgar prejudices, to stand by and see his body consumed by fire? 'Yes,' replied his neighbour, 'I will burn your corpse on the centre arch of Battersea Bridge, if you so desire; and that too in spite and in sight of all the proprietors.' 'How is that possible?' inquired Mr. Jennings. 'Nothing more easy,' rejoined the other; 'it is only placing your corpse in a car, dressed in a pitched shirt, and surrounded by combustibles. I myself shall apply the match soon after the body leaves the place of your present abode; and when you arrive midway between the two toll-houses, I intend to pull out the linch pins. You can then consume at leisure, and without danger, notwithstanding it is a wooden bridge.'

This whimsical proposition was instantly agreed to, in the presence of a third gentleman, and Mr. Jennings's favourite 'Venus' was to be the reward. A coolness between the parties afterwards ensued, and Mr. Jennings then broke off the agreement. Indeed it would have been difficult for him to have fulfilled his part of it, as the 'Venus' was taken in execution, and sold, and its owner died in the King's Bench Prison.

Count de Brancas.

The Count de Brancas was walking in the street, and the Duke de la Rochefoucault crossed the way to speak to him. 'God bless thee, poor man!' exclaimed the count. Rochefoucault smiled, and was beginning to address him. 'Is it not enough,' cried the count, interrupting him, and somewhat in a passion; 'is it not enough that I have said, at first, I have nothing for you? Such lazy beggars as you hinder a gentleman from walking in the streets.' Rochefoucault burst into a loud laugh, and awakening the absent man from his lethargy, he was not a little surprised, himself, that he should have taken his friend for an unfortunate mendicant.

Bishop Thomas.

Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Salisbury, made a party once with three friends to go and dine at Windsor. The doctor was celebrated for his absence of mind, and his companions all of nearly as dreaming a turn as himself. When they were in the coach, they began to dispute about some points of philosophy, with which they became so much engrossed, that they were just able to observe, that after about two hours driving, the horses began to travel at a much slower pace than before. M. Desmaiseux, who was one of the party, put his head out of the door, and cried to the coachman, *Allons donc! Allons donc!* The man thought he said, *A London, A London*, and replied, turning his horses about, 'As you please, gentlemen.' The debate continuing, these four learned absentees never perceived that they were going back, till they came to the turnpike gate that leads into London;

when they found that instead of being at Windsor, where their dinner waited for them, they were very near the place whence they set off.

Many other whimsical instances are recorded of this absence of mind in the worthy bishop. It is said, that one day, while he was talking, a gnat bit his leg severely; the doctor stooped, and scratched a gentleman's leg that stood next to him, who smiling at the mistake, never interrupted the doctor, while the gnat all the time kept biting on. At another time, he forgot the day on which he was to be married, and might have lost his bride, had not his servant put him in mind of the appointment, by bringing him a new coat, and a finely powdered wig, bespoke for the occasion. The disposition to forget appointments of this sort, appears, by the bye, to be a very common failing with gentlemen of his cast of mind.

Cardan.

Few men have been more remarkable for a strange inequality of behaviour than the mathematician, Cardan. His life was a series of odd adventures which he has committed to writing with a simplicity or rather a freedom that is seldom to be met with among the learned; for, in truth, it seems as if he had written the history of his life for no other purpose, but to give the public an amazing instance, that a person may be endued with a great genius, yet be a fool at the same time. He makes an ingenious confession of his good and bad qualities. He seems to have sacrificed every other consideration to a desire of being sincere, and this sincerity being often misplaced, has greatly tarnished his reputation. He paid himself congratulatory compliments for not having a friend in this world; but boasted, that in requital, he was attended by an aerial spirit, partly emanated from Saturn, and partly from Mercury, that was the constant guide of his actions, and teacher of every duty to which he was bound. He declared, too, that he was so irregular in his manner of walking the streets, as to induce all beholders to point at him as a fool. Sometimes he walked very slowly, like a man absorbed in a profound meditation; then all on a sudden quickened his steps, accompanying them with very absurd attitudes. In Bologna, his delight was to be drawn about in a very mean vehicle, with three wheels. The liveliest picture that can be given of this very singular philosopher, is couched in the following verses of Horace, which, indeed, Cardan confessed agreed perfectly well with his character:—

'Nil æquale homini fuit illi,' &c.

'Where find a semblance for inconstancy?
Now quick of speed, as if from foes he fled;
Now slow he moves, and with a solemn air.
As if great Juno's altar he'd approach;
Now with attendants crowded, now alone.'

When nature did not visit him with any bodily pain, he would procure to himself that disagreeable sensation, by biting his lips so

antly, or pulling his fingers to such a violent degree, as sometimes to force the nails from his eyes; and the reason he assigned for so doing, was that he wished to moderate certain impetuous sallies of the mind, whose violence was by far more insupportable to him than pain itself; and that the consequence of such a severe practice was his better enjoying the pleasure of health.

Cardan makes no scruple of owning that he was revengeful, envious, treacherous, a dealer in the black art, a backbiter, a calumniator, and unreservedly addicted to all the foul and detestable excesses that can be imagined; yet notwithstanding (as one should think) so publishing a declaration, there was never, perhaps, a vainer mortal, or a man that with less ceremony expressed the high opinion he had of himself. 'I have been admired,' says he, 'by many nations; an almost infinite number of panegyrics, in prose and verse, have been composed to celebrate my fame. I was born to release the world from the manifold errors under which it groaned,' &c.

The same capriciousness which distinguished Cardan's moral conduct, is observable in the composition of his works. The reader stopped every moment by digressions from the subject in point. In a work on arithmetic, he has discourses on the motion of the planets, the creation, and on the tower of Babel. In a book on the dialectic art, of which he is said to boast that it contained 'neither a superfluous letter, nor one deficient,' he has many ingenious disquisitions on the writing of history and epistles. The apology he makes for the frequency of his digressions, is, that they were purposely introduced, in order that he might the sooner fill up the sheet, his bargain with the bookseller being at so much per sheet. He worked, as he would say, as much for his daily support, as for the acquisition of glory.

It was Cardan who revived, in later times, the secret philosophy of the Cabala and talismans, which filled the world with spirits, and likeness to whom, as he asserted, we might attain by purifying ourselves with philosophy. Notwithstanding all his extravagances, however, he chose for himself a noble motto, *Tempus mea possessio, tempus meus ager*. 'Time is my only possession, the only fund I have to improve.'

Clough and Shuter.

Mr. Clough, the actor, had a very peculiar taste of amusement. The most diverting thing in the world, to him, was a public execution; and he would sooner fail in being at the play-house on the night he was to act, than omit attending the unfortunate culprits to Tyburn, to be a spectator of the horrors of death in his last moments. He was one night at a coffee-house, when hearing the clock strike eleven, he abruptly rose and paid his reckoning; an acquaintance of his sitting by him asked, 'What is the matter, Clough, your hour is not come yet, you never stir till one?'

'Aye,' replied Clough, 'but do not you know there is business to be done to-morrow, and Ned Shuter and I am to attend?' Ned, who had been up all night in a joyous party, was only in his first sleep when Clough called upon him, and could not be prevailed upon to rise; Clough set off for the *scene of pleasure* by himself, vociferating loudly, 'Was there ever such a fellow? He has no more taste than a Hottentot!'

'Solyman the Magnificent.'

Charles Jennens, Esq., of Gopsal, in Leicestershire, was ambitious of literary fame, but had too much vanity to acquire it. Associating with men every way inferior to himself, he lost all opportunities of improvement, but gained what he preferred to the highest gratification of wisdom—extreme flattery. In his youth he was so remarkable for the number of his servants, the splendour of his equipages, and the profusion of his table, that from his excess of pomp he acquired the title of 'Solyman the Magnificent.' Indeed, so enamoured was he of the ostentatious display of his state, that if he only had occasion to go from his house in Great Ormond Street, Bloomsbury, to Mr. Bowyer's, the printer, in Red Lion Passage, Fleet Street, he always travelled with four horses to his carriage, and sometimes as many servants behind it. In his passage up the paved court a footman usually preceded him, to kick oyster-shells and other impediments out of the way.

But though proud, and in some degree overbearing, Mr. Jennens was as benevolent as he was rich, and indigent merit always found in him a patron and a friend.

Complaining to the King.

In the time of Frederick the Great, a student of divinity went from Thuringia, his native country, to Berlin, to gain a subsistence by teaching young people. He had quitted his country rather than accept a curacy, on the condition of marrying a woman whom he did not like. His whole fortune amounted to about four hundred crowns, which he carried with him in pieces of money of his own country, called *batzes*. When his baggage was examined at the custom house at Berlin, they took from him his *batzes* as contraband, because they had been some years before prohibited by the king. He excused himself by saying that he was ignorant of the law: but they paid no attention to what he said, and kept the money.

After many fruitless attempts he was advised to address himself to the king; and the following is the student's own relation of this matter:

'I drew up a memorial, made a fair copy of it, and set out for Potsdam, recommending myself to God, and without having a farthing in my pocket. It was there I had, for the first time, the happiness of seeing this great

monarch. He was on the parade before the palace, employed in exercising his soldiers. When the exercise was over, he went into the garden, and the soldiers retired to their quarters. Four officers remained on the parade, where they walked up and down.

'I was so troubled that I knew not how to act. At last I took my papers out of my pocket, which were my memorials, two attestations, and a passport from Thuringia. The officers perceiving these papers, and my uneasiness, came to me, and asked me what letters I had there. I communicated the contents of them with a great deal of pleasure to these gentlemen; and after they had read them, they told me they would give me the best advice. "The king is to-day," said they, "in a very good humour; follow him into the garden, and you will not repent of taking our advice."

'I could not consent to it; but one took me by the arm, and the other by the shoulder, and forced me along, saying, "Come! come into the garden!" As soon as we had entered, they sought for the king. He was talking to the gardeners, and stooping, with his back towards us, to look at some plants. The officers then ordered me to stop, and made me perform the following exercise;

"Put your hat under your left arm.
Advance your right foot.
Thrust out your chest.
Hold up your head.
Take your papers out of your pocket.
Raise them with the right hand.
Continue in that attitude."

'They then left me, turning about frequently to see if I kept my position. I clearly perceived, that they meant to make themselves merry at my expense; but I was so much frightened, that I remained immovable as a statue. The officers had proceeded but a little way in the garden, when the king turned round, and perceived my immovable figure. He cast a look at me, which seemed like the rays of the sun. He sent a gardener to take my papers, and when he received them, he struck into another walk, and I lost sight of him.

'A few moments after, he again appeared with the papers open in his left hand, and he made a sign for me to approach him. I took courage, and advanced towards him. Oh! with what kindness did he speak to me!

"My dear Thuringian (said he to me), you are come to Berlin to seek a livelihood by teaching young people, and the Custom House officers have taken from you all your Thuringian money. It is true, that the *batzes* are forbidden in my dominions; but the Custom House officers should have said to you, 'You are a stranger, and ignorant of the prohibition. We are going to seal up your little bag; take it back, and get other money for it in Thuringia;' but it was ill done in them to take it. Make yourself easy, you shall have your money returned, with interest. Yet, my friend, it is bad to be out of bread in Berlin. for the Berliners give nothing. Before you

have made proper acquaintances, your money will be all gone."

'I was so troubled, that it was some moments before my words could find utterance. The king walked on a few steps, and then made a sign for me to follow him. I approached, and having recovered myself a little, I was able to answer him such questions as he put to me. He then asked me where I was educated, what had been the nature of my studies, and who were my masters. I gave him such answers as seemed perfectly to satisfy him.

'We continued to converse in the most familiar manner till the clock struck one, when the king said, "I must go; they wait for me at dinner." In going out of the garden, I saw nothing more of the four officers, nor were they on the parade; but had joined the king. I remained on the parade. It was twenty-seven hours since I had eaten anything, and I had not even a halfpenny to buy me a piece of bread, after having walked eight leagues on foot, over sands, in very hot weather.

'I was in this sorrowful situation, when a hussar came upon the parade, and asked me if I were not the person who had that morning spoken to the king in the garden? I informed him I was; when he conducted me into a large room, in which were pages, footmen, and hussars. My conductor then led me to a table well served, and a cover for me. He presented me with a chair, and said, "The king has ordered you this dinner, and has bidden me to tell you to eat heartily, without taking notice of any one. I have also orders to attend you."

'I knew not what to think of all this; I was unwilling that the king's hussar should wait on me, and I entreated him to sit down by me; but finding that I could not persuade him, I took my resolution, and began my meal with a good appetite. After the dessert, the hussar took what remained on the plates, wrapped them up in paper, and made me put them into my pocket.

'When my little cover was removed, I saw a secretary enter, who returned me my papers, with a letter addressed to the Custom House, and who counted me down on the table, five ducats and a louis d'or, which the king gave me to take me back to Berlin. The secretary then conducted me to the door of the castle, where I saw a chariot and six horses. He made me get into it, and then said to the drivers, "The king orders you to conduct this young man to Berlin, and to take nothing of him, if he should offer you money to drink." I thanked the secretary, and off I went.

'When we were arrived at Berlin, my first and most pressing business was to carry my letter to the Custom House officers, who had treated me so uncivilly. The principal opened it, reddened, then grew pale, and said not a word, but gave it to another, who put on his spectacles, read the letter, and gave it to a third, without pronouncing a single word. At length, the third person told me to approach, and write a receipt, pur-

porting that I had received the money without any deduction, amounting to four hundred pounds of Brandenburg specie, for my *bates* Thuringia. The sum was counted out to me, and a servant was then called, who was ordered to follow me to the sign of the Swan, the inn at which I had lodged, and there pay whatever I owed. They gave me twenty-four crowns for that purpose, ordering him to turn for more, should he not find that sufficient. Thus it was that the king returned me, as he had graciously promised, my money, with interest.

The Amateur Mourner.

Mr. L. was a gentleman of an independent fortune, which he exhausted in the course of a few years, in gratifying one of the oddest whims it could ever enter the mind of a rational being. His sole enjoyment was the attending funerals. When he heard of the death of any great man, through the channel of the papers, he immediately made the circuit of the whole town, to know who had the job, and then prepared to accompany it. He has been to York, and the confines of Scotland, to be present at the interment of a nobleman or gentleman; and in this respect was no way biassed by party, or religion; was the same to him if he was Whig or Tory, out or in; whether a Roman Catholic, a Protestant; a Jew, or a Presbyterian: they equally commanded his respect and attention, provided the funeral was magnificent. His highest ambition was to obtain one of the noble escutcheons, which he considered as so many trophies of his glory, and being known most of the undertakers, and their constant companion in their peregrinations, they seldom ever refused him this request. Being entirely inattentive to his own affairs, he found himself in a state of distress, when he did not expect it: yet, though reduced to almost the want of the common necessities of life, his passion for death-hunting still prevailed; and when he could not ride he walked on foot. At whatever the journey was of any length, he bribed the hearse-driver to let him be an inside passenger with the corpse. In this useful state he traversed England more than once: but unfortunately fell a martyr, at length, to his strange whim. Being an inside passenger, on one of these solemn occasions, a very hot weather, and there being no air, as there usually is, in the hearse, when they took out the corpse, they found poor Mr. L. dead from suffocation.

Dr. O'Leary.

Dr. O'Leary, though with great talents as a controversialist, always sedulously avoided the angry theme of religious disputation. Hence, however, notwithstanding his declared aversion to polemics, he was led into a controversy. While he was at Cork he received a letter through the post-office, the writer of

which, in terms expressive of the utmost anxiety, stated that he was a clergyman of the Established Church, on whose mind impressions favourable to the Catholic creed had been made by some of O'Leary's sermons. The writer then professing his enmity to angry controversy, wished to seek further information on some articles of the Catholic creed. His name he forebore to reveal. O'Leary, anxious to propagate the doctrine of his church, replied in a manner perfectly satisfactory to his anonymous correspondent. Other doubts were expressed, and dissipated, until the correspondence had extended to eight or ten long letters.

O'Leary, in joy at his supposed triumph, whispered the important secret to a few ecclesiastical confidants, among whom was his bosom friend, the Rev. Lawrence Callanan, a Franciscan friar, of Cork. Their congratulations and approbation were not wanting to urge forward the champion of orthodoxy. His arguments bore all before them: even the obstacles arising from family and legal notions were disregarded by the enthusiastic convert, and he besought O'Leary to name a time and place at which he might lift the mysterious visor by which he had hitherto been concealed; and above all, have an opportunity of expressing his gratitude to his friend and teacher.

The appointed hour arrived. O'Leary arranged his orthodox wig, put on his Sunday suit of sable, and sallied forth with all the collected gravity of a man fully conscious of the novelty and responsibility of the affair in which he was engaged. He arrived at the appointed place of meeting some minutes after the fixed time, and was told that a respectable clergyman awaited his arrival in an adjoining parlour. O'Leary enters the room, where he finds, sitting at the table, with the whole correspondence before him, his brother friar, Lawrence Callanan, who, either from an eccentric freak, or from a wish to call O'Leary's controversial powers into action, had thus drawn him into a lengthened correspondence. The joke, in O'Leary's opinion, however, was carried too far, and it required the sacrifice of the correspondence, and the interference of mutual friends, to effect a reconciliation.

Dr. O'Leary once conceived a great desire to see the notorious miser, Daniel Dancer, who lived and died in the utmost wretchedness at Harrow Weald Common, in 1794, though leaving property to the amount of £3000 a year. The retired habits and low cautious avarice of Dancer rendered an introduction to him difficult, and an intimacy of any continuance a matter almost out of the range of possibility. The obstacles to both were overcome by O'Leary, who, during a visit to the neighbourhood of Dancer's house, found means to gain admission into the ruined dwelling where the miser passed his life. Some strange communication which he contrived to have conveyed to the object of his search, procured him admittance into a filthy apartment, where the haggard lord of useless thousands anxiously awaited his arrival. O'Leary introduced himself as a relation of

the Dancer family, and in a most amusing manner detailed the origin of the name and the exploits of the early founders of the family. From David, who *danced* before the Israelites, he traced the progress of their descent to the collateral branches, the Welsh *jumpers*, then contemporaries of dancing notoriety. His wit triumphed; for a moment the sallow brow of avarice became illumined by the indications of a delighted mind, and Dancer had courage enough to invite his visitor to partake of a glass of wine, which he said he would procure for his refreshment. A cordial shake of the hand was the return made for O'Leary's polite refusal of so expensive a compliment, and he quitted the house, followed by its strange tenant, who, to the amusement of O'Leary, and the astonishment of the only other person who witnessed the scene, solicited the favour of another visit.

A Prodigy.

When the Duke of Sully, in 1603, set out on an embassy for the court of England, he was attended by a numerous retinue of the principal men in France; among the rest, M. Servin presented his young son to him, at the same time earnestly begging the duke that he would use his best endeavours to make him an honest man. This request gave Sully a great curiosity to search into his character, and he gives the following striking account of him:—

'His genius,' says he, 'was so lively that nothing could escape his penetration; his apprehension was so quick, that he understood everything in an instant; and his memory so prodigious, that he never forgot anything. He was master of all the branches of philosophy, the mathematics, particularly fortification and designing; nay, he was so thoroughly acquainted with divinity, that he was an excellent preacher when he pleased, and could manage the controversy for or against the Protestant religion with the greatest ability. He not only understood the Greek, Hebrew, and other learned languages, but all the jargons of the moderns. He entered so exactly into their pronunciation and accent, to which he joined such a perfect imitation of their air and manner, that not only the people of the different nations in Europe, but the several provinces of France, would have taken him for a native of the country. He applied his talent to imitate all sorts of persons, which he performed with wonderful dexterity; and was accounted the best comedian in the world. He was a good poet, an excellent musician, and sung with equal art and sweetness. He said mass, for he would do everything, as well as know everything. His body was perfectly proportioned to his mind. He was well made, vigorous, and agile; formed for all sorts of exercises. He rode a horse well, and was admired for dancing, leaping, and wrestling. He was acquainted with all kinds of sports and diversions, and could practise in most of the mathematical arts. Reverse the medal,' says Sully 'he was a

liar, false, treacherous, cruel, and cowardly; a sharper, drunkard, and glutton. He was a gamester, an abandoned debauchee, a blasphemer, and atheist; in a word, he was possessed of every vice, contrary to nature, to honour, to religion, and society: he persisted in his vices to the last, and fell a sacrifice to his debaucheries, in the flower of his age.'

Getting a Place.

When Sir Robert Walpole was premier, a Mr. Moor, who represented Bishop's Castle in Parliament, was, like most candidates, very liberal of his promises to voters on the approach of an election, and very unmindful of them afterwards. Among the rest, he engaged to provide for a low mechanic who had a vote. The man was not long in reminding him of his promise, that he would speak to Sir Robert Walpole for a place for him. The member said, he had applied to Sir Robert, but that he could not procure him one. The man insisted that Mr. Moor promised him a place. Mr. Moor, somewhat irritated, said, 'What would you have me do? I have asked Sir Robert, and have been unsuccessful; would you go to Sir Robert yourself?' 'If you please, sir,' said the countryman, and away he trudged to London.

When he reached town, and stated his errand, some person advised him to go to some public-house near the premier's residence, and to treat his servants, who would soon put him in a way of getting what he wanted. Following this advice, he went to the Axe and Gate public-house, at the corner of Downing Street. The servants of Sir Robert, willing to humour what they considered a good joke, told the countryman, that he would be sure of having a place if he would speak to Sir Robert himself, which he might easily do by stationing himself close to the chariot door as the minister was slipping into it.

The next day the countryman took his post as he had been advised, and waited until Sir Robert should go out. He then placed himself between the chariot and the premier, whom he thus addressed: 'Sir, did not you promise Mr. Moor to give me a place?' 'Aye,' says Sir Robert, 'are you Mr. Moor's friend?' 'Yes, an't please your honour.' 'Well, call on me another day.' 'Yes, an't please your honour, I'll call on ye every day till I have it.' The man was as good as his word; and every morning as the chariot drove up, he fixed himself at the door, bowing, or rather knocking, his head against Sir Robert's breast, until, at the end of a fortnight, the minister, wearied with this singular and blunt importunity, gave him a tide-waiter's place at the Custom House.

Archbishop at a Ball.

M. de la Motte d'Orleans, was a prelate of the most distinguished merit, and the most exemplary life. Vice itself did homage to

is virtues. To a piety truly angelic, and istere manners, this good prelate joined a iety of mind and amenity of character, hich won him all hearts. One day his purse, uch was truly that of the poor, being ex-usted, he learned that the Intendant of iens was to give a superb ball to the ladies the city; his industrious charity availed f that circumstance to replenish it. ead of retiring to rest at ten o'clock in the ening, he orders the horses to his carriage, ts into it, and bids his servants drive him to e hotel of the Intendant. The ball was com-enced when the bishop arrived; at his sight e women, all superbly dressed, fled on all es, to different parts of the hotel. To stop e disarrangement, the Intendant intreated e bishop to step into another apartment, to le the matters which brought him there. ave no business to treat on," said the good n. "I am eighty years of age and have er seen a ball; I am come, therefore, to rs; so I beg you will reassemble the ies." The dispersed and astonished troop e collected with trouble. At last they sur-nd the bishop; his gaiety encourages them; is invited to dance. "You dance, ladies," he, "and I rejoice at it; but in the mean-ile, my poor are without bread, and drowned ears. It is for those who divert them- ves, to dry up their griefs; behold their e," says the worthy bishop, "you see it is pty." "We will fill it, my lord," reply the ies, "but on condition that you dance." illingly," cries the prelate. The collection s round, and the subscriptions were con-erable: the bishop is summoned to the ce. "It is true," says he, "that I have pro- ed, but I forgot to tell you, that there are days of the week that I cannot dance; me see what day this is." "Tuesday, my l." "Indeed, I am very sorry, but that is cisely one of my excepted days; I must efore put off my engagement; but pursue rs, and I wish you good night."

A Reason for Singularity.

leciades being blamed by all his friends cutting the tail of his dog, which was ad-ved by every one for its beauty, told them, did so, that the Athenians might amuse nselves by blaming him for that, and by this means he might escape a worse ure.

Baron Nolkín.

f all the absent men says Count Tessein, is memoirs that I ever knew in Sweden, not remarkable was the late chancellor, on Nolkín. Two instances deserve to be el. Once, when he had read to his al Highness Prince Adolphus Frederick wards king, a report of the privy council, very gravely took out of his pocket the e of his house, which he had nearly read e end, till the remarks of the prince at

last made him sensible of his mistake. Another time, he came into his Royal High-ness's ante-chamber, where I was with several officers, and asked for Count Tessein. I answered him myself; but he went out in a very great hurry, and came back and said the officer in waiting affirms that he is in the room. I answered, 'Your lordship will believe me, I hope, for I have myself seen the count go out of the room.' Nolkín went out a second time, and came back again with a new assurance of the officer in waiting; on which a general laugh ensued, which waked him out of his dream.

Sergeant Hill.

Sergeant Hill, who was much celebrated as a lawyer, and eminently qualified to find out a case in point on any disputed question, was somewhat remarkable for absence of mind, the result of that earnestness with which he devoted himself to his professional duties.

On the very day when he was married, he had an intricate case in his mind, and forgot his engagement, until reminded of his waiting bride, and that the legal time of performing the ceremony had nearly elapsed. He then quitted law for love; but at the usual hour in the evening, the sergeant returned to his books and his papers, having forgotten the *cause* he had been engaged in during the morning, until reminded by his clerk that a fair client awaited a consultation.

Being once on circuit, and having occasion to refer to a law authority, he had recourse, as usual, to his bag; but, to the astonishment of the court, instead of a volume of Viner's Abridgment, he took out a specimen candle-stick, the property of a Birmingham traveller, whose bag the learned sergeant had brought into court by mistake.

During the long vacation, the sergeant usually retired to his country seat at Rowell in Northamptonshire. It happened, during one autumn, that some of the neighbouring sportsmen, among whom was the present Earl Spencer, being in pursuit of a fox, reynard, who was hard pressed, took refuge in the courtyard of this venerable sage. At this moment the sergeant was reading a *case in point*, which decided that in a trespass of this kind, the owners of the ground had a right to inflict the punishment of death. Mr. Hill accordingly gave orders for punishing the fox, as an original trespasser; which was done instantly.

The hunters now arrived with the hounds in full cry, and the foremost horseman, who anticipated the glory of possessing the brush, was the first to behold his victim stretched lifeless on the ground, pinioned to the earth by plebeian pitchforks. The hunters were very anxious to discover the daring culprit who had presumed to deprive the field and the pack of their prey; when the venerable sergeant made his appearance, with his book in his hand, and offered to convince

them that execution had taken place according to legal authority. The sportsmen got outrageous, but the learned sergeant was not intimidated; he knew the force of his authorities, and gravely invited the attention of his auditory to a case from one of the old reporters, that would have puzzled a whole bar of modern practitioners to controvert. The effect was ludicrous; the extraordinary appearance of the worthy sergeant, not in his bar gown, but in what these adventurous mortals called a mere bedgown; the quaintness of his manner, the singularity of the occurrence, and the novelty of the incident, threw them completely out.

A frank Candidate.

A few years ago, a candidate for the shrievalty in one of the provinces in the United States of America, solicited the suffrages of the electors, by the following honest but singular address.

'Gentlemen, I offer myself a candidate for sheriff; I have been a revolutionary officer; fought many bloody battles; suffered hunger, toil, heat; got honourable scars, but little pay. I will tell you plainly how I shall discharge my duty, should I be so happy as to obtain a majority of your suffrages. If writs are put into my hands against any of you, I will take you if I can, and, unless you can get bail, I will deliver you over to the keeper of the gaol. Secondly, if judgments are found against you, and executions directed to me, I will sell your property as the law directs, without favour or affection; and if there be any surplus money, I will punctually remit it. Thirdly, if any of you should commit a crime (which God forbid) that requires capital punishment, according to law, I will hang you up by the neck till you are dead.'

Calf-Stealing.

A few years ago, a butcher who had purchased a calf not far from Lewes, in Sussex, sat with it on a horse at a public-house door; a shoemaker, remarkable for his drollery, knowing that the butcher had to pass through a wood, offered to the landlord to carry off the calf, provided he would treat him with sixpennyworth of grog. The landlord agreed; and the shoemaker setting off, dropped one new shoe in the path near the middle of the wood, and another near a quarter of a mile from it. The butcher saw the first shoe, but did not think it worth getting down for; however, when he discovered the second, he thought the pair would be an acquisition, and accordingly dismounted, tied his horse to the hedge, and walked back to where he had seen the first shoe. The shoemaker, in the mean time, unstrapped the calf, and carried it across the fields to the landlord, who put it in his barn. The butcher missing his calf, went back to the inn, and told his misfortune; at the same time observing, that he must have

another calf, cost what it would, as the veal was bespoke. The landlord told him he had a calf in the barn, which he would sell him; the butcher looked at it, and asked the price. The landlord replied, 'Give me the same as you did for the calf you lost; as this, I think, is full as large.' The butcher would by no means allow the calf to be *so good*, but agreed to give him within six shillings of what the other cost, and accordingly put the calf a second time on his horse. Crispin, elated with his success, undertook to steal the calf again for another sixpennyworth; which being agreed on, he posted to the wood, and there hid himself. When the butcher came along, he bellowed so like a calf, that the butcher, conceiving it to be the one he had lost, cried out in joy, '*Ah! are you there?* Have I found you at last?' and immediately dismounting, ran into the wood. Crispin taking advantage of the butcher's absence, unstrapped the calf, and actually got back with it to the publican, before the butcher arrived to tell the mournful tale, who attributed the whole to witchcraft. The publican unravelled the mystery; and the butcher, after paying for, and partaking of, a crown's-worth of punch, laughed heartily at the joke.

Duke of Montague.

The last Duke of Montague, whose eccentricities were generally amiable, once invited to a dinner the famous *bon vivant* Dartneuf, whose fame for loving pie, Pope has rendered immortal. The dinner hour was fixed at four o'clock; the epicure was punctual, but his grace wishing to tantalize him, said, 'he had mistaken the time, for the cloth was removed.' Dartneuf could obtain nothing but a beef-steak for his dinner, which unfortunately was none of the best. There seemed no alternative, and the mortified Dartneuf had reconciled himself to his fate, when the duke reminding him how necessary it was for a person to accommodate himself to circumstances, and particularly with regard to the appetite, ushered him and the rest of the company into another room, where a splendid dinner was provided.

Courtois.

John Courtois, who died in 1819, worth a quarter of a million of money, was a hairdresser, and a native of France. He came to England in the capacity of a gentleman's valet; and after living with several persons of respectability, set up shop as a hairdresser. Here he carried on the business of a peruke-maker and hairdresser, on a respectable footing, many years: but he added to his profession another, which proved more lucrative: having a very extensive acquaintance with the servants in genteel families, his shop became the resort of persons of that description, particularly those who were out of place. These he instructed in the art of hairdressing, gave them temporary employment, and never

led in procuring them situations; for all rich he expected a handsome acknowledgment; and if they refused to comply with his terms, he was sure to make them feel the effects of his resentment. By these means, and the most penurious habits, he soon made money, which he very carefully placed out on public security; where interest reduplicating upon itself with continued additions to the principal, multiplied to a large capital in the course of a few years.

The late Lord Gage one day met Courtois in the East India House, where a sharp contest for the direction was pending; and being much surprised, he accosted him thus:—‘Ah, Courtois, what brings you here?’ ‘To give my votes, my lord,’ was the answer. ‘What, you a proprietor?’ ‘Most certainly,’ and more votes than one?’ ‘Yes, my lord, I have four.’ ‘Aye, indeed! why, then, do you take the book, be kind enough to curl up my curls.’ With this demand, the proprietor of four votes, amounting in the whole to ten thousand pounds, immediately complied. Let it be observed, however, in justice to this eccentric nobleman, that Courtois was usually the regular attendant upon his lordship, as his friseur, at this very time.

It should be observed of Courtois, that he was scrupulously honest in his dealings, and faithful to his engagements. The tax-gatherers had never to call upon him twice; if he was not at home, and they left their message, he made it a point, the same or the next day, to wait upon them with the amount of their demand. His appearance was quite of the last age; his chapeau being such as was in vogue forty or fifty years ago, and his coat invariably of a fawn or morone colour, though sufficiently threadbare to denote the carefulness of the wearer.

Splendid Miser.

Ischæus Dichæanus was a splendid miser, united the opposite characters of great economy and magnificent appearance, which he thought himself bound to maintain, as he traced a descent from the Byzantine emperors. His table was spread twice a day, as for grand entertainments; and the servants went out with silver dishes and covers, which, passing a few streets, they brought back to the house as they went out, while their master dined on cheap vegetables, or perhaps a slice of pork or mutton. His supper, though richly arrayed, was an egg, or a few sops with a gill of sour wine. When he went out, his servants attended in rich liveries; but on their return, they were ordered to resume their own clothes. In winter, no fire was permitted in any part of the house, except the kitchen. His servants were ordered to wash in the sun; or if the sky was cloudy, to run races, or draw water from a well, that they might be warmed without the expense of fire. He himself was shut up in his bed-room over a miserable spark, heated by all the dirty and waste paper

which he had carefully collected during the other seasons of the year.

During his last sickness, when he was puzzled to whom he should bequeath his property, a letter came from a relative written on an inch of paper. Instead of being enraged at such disrespect, his avarice got the better of his pride, and he declared the writer his heir, esteeming him, by this instance, well worthy of being his successor in parsimony.

Shut the Door.

Dean Swift, though a good master, was very rigid with his servants. The task of hiring them was always entrusted to his house-keeper; but the only two positive commands he had for them, he generally delivered himself; these were, to shut the door whenever they came into, or went out of, a room. One of his maid servants one day asked permission to go to her sister's wedding, at a place about ten miles distant. Swift not only consented, but lent her one of his own horses, and ordered his servant to ride before her. The girl, in the ardour of her joy for this favour, forgot to shut the door after her when she left the room. In about a quarter of an hour afterwards, the Dean sent a servant after her, to order her immediate return; the poor girl complied, and entering his presence, begged to know in what she offended, or what her master wished. ‘Only shut the door,’ said the Dean, ‘and then resume your journey.’

Singular Dowries.

About 1770, there was living in London, a tradesman who had disposed of eleven daughters in marriage, with each of whom he gave their weight in halfpence as a fortune. The young ladies must have been bulky, for the lightest of them weighed fifty pounds, two shillings, and eightpence.

Royalist Clergyman.

On the death of Charles the First, the first Earl of Orrery retired to a seat at Marston, which his father had purchased from Sir John Hippesley. The parish church of Marston was very near to the mansion-house, and his lordship was a regular attendant every Sunday. On one occasion the minister, from some cause or other, did not make his appearance; and the earl, after sitting in his pew for some time, was preparing to return home, when his servants told him that there was a person in the church who offered to preach. His lordship, though he looked upon the proposal as that of some vain enthusiast, gave permission; and was most agreeably surprised to hear a sermon replete with learning, sense, and piety. The earl would not suffer the preacher to escape unknown, but invited him to dine at the mansion; and on requesting to know his name and circumstances in life, received this answer: ‘My

lord, my name is Ashberry; I am a clergyman of the Church of England, and a loyal subject to the king; I have lived three years in a poor cottage under your warren wall, within a few paces of your lordship's house. My son lives with me, and we read and dig by turns. I have a little money, and some few books, and I submit cheerfully to the will of Providence.'

This worthy and learned man, for such Lord Orrery always called him, died at Marston some years after, but not till his lordship had obtained an allowance of £30 per annum for him, without any obligation of taking the covenant.

The cottage in which the reverend nonconformist lived, and the field which he used to dig, have been since taken into the gardens of Marston House; but the cottage, consisting of only two rooms, has, in memory of its ancient occupant, been preserved in its original form, and furnished in a style of equal antiquity, with all sorts of useful furniture, books, prints, &c.

The Ruling Passion.

M. de la Mothe le Vayer, a Parisian counsellor of state, was extremely fond of the relation of voyagers, and of every information from foreign countries. This propensity he retained to the latest moments of his life. The last words he uttered to a friend, who attended him on his death bed, were, 'Have you, my dear sir, heard any news from the Great Mogul?'

Duke of Queensberry.

The Duke of Queensberry, of sporting memory, used to say, that he read but two publications, the newspaper and an almanack. During the latter years of his life, after eating his breakfast, he was placed on a sofa facing one of his parlour windows in Piccadilly. Behind him stood a *nomenclator*, during the whole forenoon, to announce the names of such of his friends as might pass by, to whom he frequently sent out messages, invitations, &c. This was so common, that many of them, when in haste, avoided walking that way. One of his grooms was constantly on horseback to convey letters. He had a report of all the police cases, daily, from Bow Street; and Aaron Graham, Esq., called on him every Sunday with a summary. So uniform was his grace in attendance, during certain fixed hours, in his drawing-room or his balcony, that a gentleman, who set out for India in quest of a fortune, and ten years afterwards returned, actually found the duke in the same spot, and engaged in a similar pursuit, as when he left him.

The Duke of Queensberry was a keen and an eccentric sportsman [see *Anecdotes of Pastime*]. Among the singular bets that he made, was one, that he would cause a pig to run a mile without stopping, and without being driven or led. To do this, he got a

young pig, which he placed in a sty, with a trough just outside, to which it was regularly let out; next day the trough was removed a few yards further from the sty, and the distance increased gradually, until it was at length placed a mile from it. Six weeks were taken thus to train up the pig; and he always as soon as let out of the sty, ran forward to the trough, and thus, on the day of trial, won the Duke of Queensberry two thousand guineas.

Royal Nimrod.

Charles the Third of Spain was much more attached to the sports of the field, than the splendours of the monarchy. His dress was usually a large hat, a plain grey Segovia frock, a buff waistcoat, a small dagger, black breeches, and worsted stockings. On court days, a fine suit was hung upon his shoulders; but as he always had an eye to his afternoon's sport, and was a great economist of his time, he always retained the lower part of his robe, even on gala days.

There were but three days in the whole year that he spent without going out shooting, and these were noted with the blackest mark in the calendar. No storm, heat, or cold, could keep him at home; and if he heard of a wolf having been seen, he accounted all distance as nothing, and would drive over half the kingdom rather than miss an opportunity of firing at his favourite game. Besides a most numerous retinue of persons belonging to his hunting establishment, several times a year, all the idle fellows in and about Madrid were hired to scour the neighbouring country, and drive the wild boars, deer, and hares into a ring, where they passed before the royal family.

Laugh and Grow Fat.

When Foote was in Scotland, he travelled from Dumfries to Edinburgh, in a stage coach, in company with a country gentleman of enormous size. Becoming by the way pretty familiar with his companion, Foote asked him in what employment he was, or if he was in any? The gentleman replied, that he was a landowner. Foote inquired how much that might yield him a year? 'From fifty to seventy pounds.' 'What!' exclaimed Foote, affecting the utmost amazement; 'and is it possible so small an income can ever maintain so immense a man as you are? Ah, my good friend, how I pity you. Here,' pulling out of his pocket some half-a-dozen guineas, 'there, take them, my honest fellow: they are all I have at present; I wish, for your sake, they were more; but few as they are, they will be a help to a gentleman in your melancholy circumstances.' The stranger, who was luckily a man of sense as well as bulk, laughed heartily at this sally of his fellow traveller, but assured him, that in his country, it was not the custom for men to grow fat on the charity of others. 'But how,

en,' said Foote. 'do you contrive it?' 'Oh!' replied the gentleman, 'I'll tell you; there's an old saying, *laugh and grow fat*—did do you know,' continued he, 'that though I have laughed a great deal to be as fat as I am, I am on my way now to Edinburgh to have some more laughing. There's a Foote——' 'Now sitting opposite to you,' whispered the English Aristophanes, 'who is delighted to find, that though you do not accept his guineas, he may yet help you in another way, by making you laugh to your heart's content.'

Taste.

A gentleman calling one morning upon Mr. Ryan, the comedian, at his lodgings in a lane in Westminster market, expressed his astonishment at his choosing to bury himself in an unpleasant situation. 'Why!' added he, 'you have no prospect whatever.' 'No prospect!' rejoined Ryan, jumping up to the window; 'come here, my boy, and I'll show you a most delightful prospect.' Ryan then pointed to two butchers' shops, with a whole range of fresh killed carcasses. 'There,' continued he, 'there's a prospect for you, to which any language can do justice.'

Mr. Clark, of Exeter Change.

Mr. Thomas Clark, the well known proprietor of Exeter Change, where he amassed a fortune as was perhaps ever gained by a single individual, in the way of retail trade, was one of the most singular individuals of his day. Selling nothing but what was of the best quality, being content to sell at a small profit, and always asking at once the best price he would take, he acquired an amount of retail custom unrivalled in the metropolis; and his coffers filled rapidly with the fruits of fair industry. But what perhaps added not less to promote his fortune, was his frugal, or rather penurious, mode of life, which, to his latest hour, he observed. The day after his dinner, on six days of the week, he exceeded ninepence; he took it on the board, in a small closet adjoining his shop; and after he had finished, he stepped across to the public-house opposite the west end of the Change, took a glass of gin water, which cost him an additional two-pence, and then immediately returned to resume the business of the day. Such was the undeviating tenor of his way, till he approached his eightieth year, when he contracted, after a short illness. So large were the profits of Mr. Clark's trade, that when the new tax was imposed, he returned them at once. The tax collector conceiving that he had by mistake, returned, and overrated too, the whole stock, instead of his income, sent to Mr. Clark his schedule for correction. Mr. Clark added another thousand, and added to assure the collector, that he had stated the utmost amount. 'Aye, but,'

said the other, 'I want your income, not your property.' 'Will you be content to take it as my income?' 'Oh, yes.' 'So will I,' replied the old merchant, and wished the astonished collector a good morning. The fortune which Mr. Clark left to his family is supposed to have amounted to nearly half a million.

Alexander Cruden.

Alexander Cruden, the eccentric author of the 'Concordance,' was very intimate with the famous Dr. Bradbury, a zealous dissenting clergyman. The doctor had one evening prepared an excellent supper for several friends; at the moment it was served on the table, Mr. Cruden made his appearance in the room, heated with walking. The doctor's favourite dish, a turkey, was smoking at one end of the table, and before the company could be seated, Cruden advanced, put back his wig, and with both hands plunged in the gravy, he calmly washed his hands and face over the bird, to the no small mortification of the doctor and his company.

Sailors.

The eccentricity of British sailors is proverbial, and displays itself in the heat of action, and the calm of peace. How many interesting anecdotes are already related of these bulwarks of Britain; and how many more a close observer in one of our seaports might record! After the battle of Camperdown, in which the plan of breaking the line was adopted so successfully, it became a favourite amusement with the sailors, who came on shore, to hire coaches, or post-chaises, and mounting the roofs, form a line, and cross each other in the streets. The top of a coach, is the post of honour with a British tar. A sailor in his way to town some years ago, rode on the top of a post-chaise, until a heavy rain induced him to go inside. He overtook a marine, who asked him to give him a lift. 'That I will,' said the sailor, getting out, and again mounting the roof of the coach, 'go down below, but shiver my splinters, if any marine shall ever board a vessel I am in.'

Careless of danger, an English sailor sees nothing but victory and prize money in an engagement. 'There,' said a British tar, when his captain did not deem it advisable to attack a Spanish vessel under large convoy, 'there goes fifty pounds of my money for ever.'

Ever jealous, and ever proud, of his country, a British sailor will not see it second in anything. After a severe engagement with the Dutch fleet, under De Ruyter, which was a drawn battle, the vessels of each fleet lay alongside each other, incapable of further hostility. A Dutchman, anxious to show his agility, ran up to the top of the mainmast, and stood on his head on the summit. A

British sailor, jealous for the honour of his country, mounted his mast with equal agility, but in attempting to invert his position, he fell, the ropes broke his fall, and he reached the decks without receiving any injury. Turning to the Dutchmen, who had been witnessing his exploit, he said, 'there, mynheers, do that if you can.'

During the campaign in Egypt, some sailors in the harbour of Alexandria took it into their heads, that they would go and drink a bowl of punch on the top of Pompey's pillar. How to get there, was, however, a matter of some difficulty, but not too great for a sailor to surmount. A paper kite was made to fly directly over the pillar. A two inch rope was then tied to one end of the string, and drawn over the pillar by the end to which the kite was affixed. By this rope, one of the seamen ascended to the top, and in less than an hour, a kind of shroud was constructed, by which the whole company went up and drank their punch, amidst the shouts of the astonished multitude who had collected round the spot. The sailors, eight in number, left the initials of their names inscribed on the pillar. They discovered what was not before known, that there had formerly been a statue on the pillar, the foot and ankle of which are still remaining.

A Linguist.

Among the singular characters which nature sometimes produces, and which display a diversity from mankind in general, few have been more remarkable than Richard Robert Jones, of Aberdaron, in Carnarvonshire, who, although an excellent linguist, is, in almost every other respect, an idiot. From what cause he inbibed a taste for the acquisition of languages, is not known. Born of humble parents, he had few advantages of education; and it was not until he was nine years of age, that he was able to read the Bible in his native language. He then attempted to acquire the English, but found it very difficult.

At the age of fifteen, Richard began to study the Latin, by the assistance of a boy in the parish school, and by getting into the school-room while the boys were absent, and using their books. When nineteen years of age, he purchased a Greek Grammar, and soon was enabled to read that language.

In some excursions from his native place, which the severity of his father, on account of his indolence, induced him to make, he procured some classical elementary works, and attracted the notice of the Bishop of Bangor, who took him into his house, where he remained but a short time. During a temporary residence at Anglesea, he became acquainted with some French refugees, who supplied him with a grammar of that language, of which he soon acquired so good a knowledge, as to speak it correctly. He next mastered Italian, which he spoke with great ease and fluency. The next excursion Richard made, was to Liverpool, where he had once before

accompanied his father. His person and dress at this time were extremely singular. To an immense shock of black hair, he united a bushy beard of the same colour. His clothing consisted of several coarse and ragged vestments, the spaces between which, were filled with books, surrounding him in successive layers, so that he was literally a walking library. These books all occupied their proper stations, being placed higher or lower, according as their sizes suited the conformation of his body; so that he was acquainted with the situation of each, and could bring it out, when wanted, without difficulty. When introduced into a room, he had not the least idea of anything that surrounded him; and when he took his departure, he appeared to have forgotten the entrance. Absorbed in his studies, he had continually a book in his hand, to which he frequently referred, as if to communicate or receive information, and apparently under a conviction that every person he met with, was as much interested in such studies as himself. His sight was imperfect, his voice sharp and dissonant; and upon the whole, his appearance and manner, grotesque in the highest degree; yet, under all these disadvantages, there was a gleam in his countenance, which marked intelligence, and an unaffected simplicity in his behaviour, which conciliated regard.

Soon after his arrival at Liverpool, an attempt was made by some of his friends to obtain for him a suitable employment; but before that could be expected, it was necessary that he should be rendered more decent in his person, and provided with better clothes. Being then asked to what employment he had been brought up, he answered, to that of a *sawyer*. A recommendation was, therefore, given him to a person who employed many hands in sawing, and Richard was put down in the saw-pit. He accordingly commenced his labours, and proceeded for some time with a fair prospect of success. It was not long, however, before his efforts relaxed, and grew fainter and fainter: till at length he fell on his face, and lay extended at the bottom of the pit, calling out loudly for help. On raising him up, and inquiring into the cause of his disaster, it appeared that he had laboured to the full extent of his arms' length, when not being aware that it was necessary he should also move his feet forwards, and being quite breathless and exhausted, he was found in the situation described. As soon as he had recovered himself, he returned to the person who sent him, and complained loudly of the treatment he had received, and of his being put down underground. On being asked, why he had represented himself as a *sawyer*, he replied, 'that he had never been employed in any other kind of sawing, than *cross cutting* the branches of timber trees when fallen in the woods in Wales.'

As there was little prospect of instruction, Richard in any useful occupation, he was placed in a situation at Liverpool, where he might pursue his studies with greater advantages; but after remaining there about

months, he returned home, until a new quarrel with his father again made him travel. He went back to Liverpool, where he was obliged to part with a Hebrew Bible, with points, and a sort of various Readings : a sacrifice which he regretted so deeply, that he resolved to undertake a journey to London, for the purpose of buying another, and at the same time obtaining some instruction in the Chaldean and Syriac languages.

In the summer of 1807, Richard accordingly set out from Liverpool, furnished with a small packet on his back, a long pole in his hand, round which was rolled a map of the world, and his few remaining books deposited in the various foldings of his dress. They did not, however, answer the purpose intended ; and what was still worse, he could neither find any employment, nor obtain assistance ' by any means whatever.'

When in London, Richard made his way to the continent, probably not without some intention of obtaining a passage to the continent. But his ill-fortune seems to have changed, and he was engaged in sifting ashes in the dockyard, under the direction of the superintendent, who benevolently allowed him to eat breakfast in a morning, and furnished him with a chest to keep his books, and also paid him six shillings and fourpence per day as wages.

From this income, Richard was not enabled to provide for his personal wants, so he went to the Rabbi Nathan, a celebrated proficient in Hebrew, for instruction in that language, and for the books requisite for his repose. In this situation he continued nearly three years, which seem to have passed more happily than any other of his life ; nor can it be denied, that the circumstance of a person in his forlorn and destitute situation, labouring for his daily subsistence, and applying a part of his humble earnings to acquire a knowledge of the ancient languages, forms as singular an object as the faculty of literature can produce.

When Richard returned to London, where he was reduced to the utmost distress, and was obliged to sell all his books to prevent his being arrested to death ; the Welsh Bardic, however, on learning his destitute situation, furnished him with the means of returning to his native country.

On perusal of the numerous works that attracted the attention of this singular individual, his chief pleasure is not derived from facts or the information they contain, but from the mere investigation of the nature and the grammatical constitution of the various languages.

His studies are diversified by some other pursuits, which show that he is not capable of other acquirements. At a particular time, he was highly delighted in playing a ram's horn, which he did in a manner, as rendered him no inconvenience to the neighbourhood. When a present made to him of a hand-bellows, he threw aside his former instrument, and, by constant assiduity, qualified to play a few tunes in a manner

more remarkable for its noise than its accuracy. Thus accomplished, he paid a visit to Chester during the election of 1818 ; and arriving there at the precise time when the band of General Grosvenor were celebrating his return, he placed himself in the midst of them—

—'and blew a blast so loud and dread,
Were ne'er prophetic sounds so full of woe.'

The derangement thus occasioned, induced the general to call him up to him ; when, after a few words, he made him a handsome present, and gave him his permission to blow his horn as long as he pleased.

Another of his peculiarities is a partiality for the whole race of cats, which he seems to regard with great affection, and to resent any injury done to them with the utmost indignation. This singular predilection has led him to adorn the numerous books on grammar, which he has himself written, with prints of cats, cut from old ballads, or wherever else he can discover them ; and to copy everything that has been written and strikes his fancy respecting them : amongst which is 'The Auction of Cats in Cateaton Street,' the well-known production of one of the most celebrated wits of the present day.

The principal residence of Richard for some years has been at Liverpool, where he may be seen at times walking with a book under his arm, without noticing or speaking to anyone, unless he be first spoken to ; when he answers in any language in which he is addressed, with great readiness and civility. If any gratuity be offered to him (for he never solicits it), he receives it with a degree of hesitation, generally using the words—'I am not worthy.' To any ridicule to which his dress and appearance may give rise, he is totally insensible. At one time he chose to tie up his hair with a large piece of green ferret, which gave him the most ludicrous appearance possible. Some time since, one of his friends gave him a light-horseman's jacket, of blue and silver, which he immediately put on, and continued to wear ; and which, contrasted with his hair and beard, gave him the appearance of a Jewish warrior, as represented in old prints, and consequently attracted after him a crowd of children. In his present appearance, he strongly resembles some of the beggars of Rembrandt : and if he had lived in the time of that great artist, might have afforded a good subject for his immortal pencil.

M. Vandille.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the chief magistrate at Bonlogne, was M. Vandille, who, by mere saving, had amassed a large fortune. His usual diet was bread and milk ; and it was generally thought, that it was to save the price of this milk, that he sought and obtained his judicial office. He now took upon himself to be milk-taster general, at the public market : 'It was a cruel

thing,' he said, 'that the inhabitants should be imposed on in an article of such necessity; and he was resolved, for their sakes, to try, himself, the quality of all the milk brought into the town.' Every morning and evening, after eating his loaf at home, he would take his walk among the milk-women, and by taking a sip from each pail, was enabled, without a farthing of expense to himself, to indulge to any extent in his favourite beverage. His wealth, which accumulated rapidly, was all invested in the public funds; and becoming by this means favourably known in the capital, M. Vandille was at length invited to take a part in the magistracy of Paris. He hesitated at first, about accepting the promotion, for he did not know how he should be off for milk in Paris, and the expenses of the journey thither must be enormous. Reflecting, however, that the metropolis was a vast field for a man of his ingenuity; and consoling himself with the probability of being able, in some way or other, to make up for the great sacrifices he must make; he decided on submitting to the honour which, as he declared, had been thrust upon him. After converting everything he possessed in the world, into money, he remitted the whole to Paris; reserving only wherewith to defray the expenses of his journey; but that, in these expenses, he might not be seduced into any irrecoverable extravagance, the sum reserved was only threepence, though the journey is one of a hundred and thirty miles. With so light a purse, riding was of course out of the question. M. Vandille resolved to walk; but even that he could not have accomplished, had he not, at the same time, very prudently assumed the disguise of a mendicant priest; in which character he received benefactions from the pious persons whom he met by the way, that more than trebled his scanty store. How M. Vandille succeeded in Paris, all the ways he took to acquire and save money, it would be tedious to relate; suffice it to state, that by the year 1735, when he had reached his seventy-eighth year, he had amassed a fortune of not less than eight hundred thousand pounds. He was still a hale old man, and had the prospect of living many years longer; but was suddenly cut off, in the great attempt of saving a sixpence; the expenditure of which might have saved his life. Being seized with some inflammatory symptoms, in consequence of over-heating himself, he sent for a surgeon to bleed him. The surgeon asking half a livre for the operation, was at once turned about his business. An apothecary was then sent for; but though of humbler rank, he disdained to accept less than his neighbour. Vandille then sent for a poor barber, who undertook to open a vein for threepence a time. 'Aye, but,' said this worthy economist, 'how often, friend, will it be necessary to bleed?' 'Three times.' 'And what quantity of blood do you intend to take each time?' 'Eight ounces.' 'Well, but why can't you take the whole twenty-four ounces at once! You want to make a job of me, you scoundrel. Here, sir; there is your

threepence, and take the twenty-four ounces immediately.' The barber was generous enough to obey; M. Vandille lost the twenty-four ounces of blood, and died in a few days, leaving all his vast treasures to the king, whom he made his sole heir.

Walking Stewart.

John Stewart, better known by the name of Walking Stewart, from his having performed a pedestrian tour through the principal countries of the known world, in order, as he said, 'to discover the polarity of moral truth,' returned to London, and paraded the streets in an Armenian dress, in order, as he said, to attract attention. Recovering a sum of money on the liquidation of the debts of the Nabob of Arcot, for his services in India, he commenced a series of entertainments. Every evening, a conversazione was held at his house, which was further enlivened by music. On Sundays, he gave dinners to a select party, when he usually treated his friends with a philosophical discourse, and sacred music from Handel's compositions, to which he was very partial, particularly the dead march in Saul, which was the signal for his visitors marching off, as it generally concluded the evening. When advanced in years, he was still every day to be found, either sitting on a bench in St. James's Park, or in one of the recesses of Westminster Bridge, where he was still in search of the 'polarity of moral truth;' and he seldom suffered any person, whether a friend or a stranger, to sit near him, without introducing his favourite subject; though it is believed he never met with one who could understand him. [See *Anecdotes of Travelling*.]

Impressment.

During the time of the American war, when the impressment was very severe in London, the gang stopped a gentleman's carriage, with two footmen behind it, and securing one of them, began to carry him off. The man remonstrated to the lieutenant on the hardness of taking him in preference to his fellow-servant. 'Avast there,' said the officer to the men, 'the fellow's right, they shall both pay for their beef alike.' He then took a shill and bade the other servant, who remained behind the carriage, call head or tail, as he tossed it up. 'Head,' says the servant. 'No, it's a tail,' exclaimed the lieutenant, 'so unship yourself, and let your mess come aboard in your room;' which the fellow was compelled to do, and was instantly marched off.

Hume.

Hume was once crossing a temporary bridge, which connected the new with the town of Edinburgh, when it unfortunately gave way, and he fell into the swamp

died loudly for assistance, when an old woman hastened to the spot; but perceiving that it was that thus invoked aid, she refused to give him any assistance, on the ground that he was an Atheist. 'Oh no, no,' said the philosopher, 'I am no Atheist, I assure you, good woman, you are quite mistaken.' 'If you are not an Atheist,' returned she, 'you may say your belief; and if you cannot do that, I will be no aid to save an infidel.' Mr.ume finding no other person approaching for his assistance, distinctly repeated the Apostles' creed, and having convinced the good woman of his Christian education at least, she charitably afforded that relief, which otherwise she would have thought it a duty of religion to deny him.

Rousseau.

Rousseau lived long on his fifth floor in Paris, entirely forgotten by the world, which affected to despise, and from affectation, was shunned; when an accident that happened to him, in one of his solitary walks, brought him once more, for a single moment, into the stage of the public. He was met in a narrow part of the street, by Monsieur de Fargeau, driving very fast in his carriage, in his attempt to get out of the way, was checked by a large Danish dog running before his horses, and thrown down in the road. Monsieur de Fargeau immediately stopped his coach, and hastened to assist the person whom his dog had thus knocked down; but soon as he recognised the author of 'Emile,' he redoubled his apologies and his attentions, and pressed him, in the most humble manner possible, to allow him the happiness of conveying him back to his lodgings. The philosopher was inexorable, and returned on foot. Next morning, Monsieur de Fargeau sent to inquire for him. 'Your master to chain up his dog,' was the only answer.

Windsor Farmer.

The late majesty was very fond of tench, and the gentlemen in the neighbourhood of Windsor used frequently to send presents of fish to the castle. Among others, a plain, honest farmer, brought a brace of tench in a basket. A servant offered to take them, but the farmer would not deliver them to any but the king; who, being apprised of the matter, and seeing the tench remarkably good for the queen to see them. His majesty then offered the farmer five guineas, but he refused it, telling the king, that if he only call on him at his farm, he would show him the pond, and get some more; his majesty then gave him the address, and in about a fortnight he called on the farmer, whose servants being busy with the harvest, the king helped him to fish in the pond, and got some fine fish, and gave him ten guineas to the farmer's children.

Joseph Sanford.

When Joseph Sanford, of Baliol College, Oxford, so well known for his learning and singularity in dress, applied to the bishop for ordination, he was introduced to the chaplain, to whom he was a stranger, and who, as usual, said he must examine him. The first question proposed was '*Quid fides?*' to which Sanford replied, in a loud voice, '*Quid non vides.*' The second question was '*Quod spes?*' to which Sanford answered, in a still louder tone, '*Futura res.*' The third was, '*Quid caritas?*' to which he roared out, '*In mundo raritas.*' On this the chaplain, finding that he had an extraordinary character to deal with, left him, and went to inform the bishop what had passed below, with a person he knew not what to make of, who had given in his name, Joseph Sanford, of Baliol: this made the bishop laugh, and exclaim, 'You examine him! Why he is able to examine you and our whole bench. Pray desire him to walk up.' The bishop made an apology for the chaplain, and said he was sorry Mr. Sanford had not applied to him in the first instance.

In an evening, it was the constant practice of Mr. Sanford to walk a mile up and down the shop of Mr. Fletcher, the bookseller; and every Friday, let the weather be fair or foul, he never omitted walking to some house four or five miles from Oxford, on the banks of the Cherwell, where he used to dine on fish.

Mr. Farquhar.

The world, which is ever judging of men by appearances, is for ever forming most erroneous notions of their characters. A gentleman who is possessed of untold thousands, must make a great show of his wealth in everything about him; he must dress splendidly, and live sumptuously; never sit down to a meal without a dozen servants to wait on him; nor go abroad to take the air without a mob in livery at his heels: he must have his horses, and carriages, and hounds; his town house, and his country house; his marine villa, and his sporting box: and to all these superfluities, he must add a few very superfluous vices, which go by the tender name of follies: otherwise he is set down as a man on whom fortune has showered unmerited blessings, a sordid miser, whose sole delight consists in counting and turning over the treasures he has amassed. It is the way, indeed, of the rich to launch into such extravagances: but it is taking a very false view of things, to imagine that there is in all this anything of a just sense of the true value of riches. With by far the greater number, the ruling motive is nothing but sheer vanity, or a silly compliance with what they are told the world expects from them. Some willingly make themselves a spectacle for the world to gaze at; others reluctantly consent, for fashion's sake, to enslave themselves to a thousand things they would much rather be without. 'I have ten servants,' said an

honourable baronet, once, in the House of Commons, 'at least, ten persons who call themselves my servants, though, in reality, it is I who am the servant to them.' Your rational man of wealth, is one who in all points differs from the generality of his class. He is the comet of his sphere, and his eccentricity consists in doing only what good sense and good feeling dictate. He dresses plainly, because it is to his taste; he lives frugally, for he wishes to live long; he has no more servants than are absolutely necessary to his wants; keeps not a single house, nor horse, nor hound, nor carriage, that he has no use for: he has his pleasures, but such as are to be traced neither in the destruction of innocence, nor in the spoiliations of the gaming table; it is in the pursuits of science, literature, and virtue, in study while at home, and in acts of beneficence while abroad, that his great and sole delight consists. Such a man of wealth, we believe the respectable individual to be, to whom these ANECDOTES OF ECCENTRICITY are inscribed. The world resounds with the fame of Mr. Farquhar's vast wealth, and many are the exclamations of surprise at his obscure habits; but there are acts of Mr. F. unknown as yet to fame (for it is one of his peculiarities, to love to do good in secret), which show that he makes a noble use of the fortune which, by his talents and industry, and not by his mere savings, he has acquired.

A highly respectable individual was in want of a temporary accommodation; he applied to Mr. Farquhar for his assistance, and tendered the most ample securities for any advance he might make. Mr. F. having ascertained the amount requisite to remedy the inconvenience, immediately, in the most handsome manner, presented the gentleman with ten thousand pounds, a sum which formed a considerable surplus of his necessities, and would not accept or hear of even an acknowledgment for it.

On another occasion, as he was taking his daily airing on foot, and in that garb very

probably which has caused him, at times, to be regarded as a reduced gentleman, meriting patrician compassion, he observed a gentleman eyeing very wistfully a house belonging to him, at the west end of the town, which was then to let. Mr. Farquhar, accosting him, begged to know if he wished for such a house? The stranger, indicating by his looks some surprise at a question like this, from one who seemed to have so very little to do with property of any kind; Mr. F. added, that 'because if he did, he was the owner of the house, and would be glad to show it to him.' The gentleman observed, that 'it seemed indeed a fine house, but it was needless for him to look at it, as he was afraid it was far above his means.' 'Well, but there will be no harm in your just taking a view of it: you can see if you would like it, and we will talk afterwards about terms.' Into the house they went, and all over it; the stranger was loud in its praises; he 'would be happy,' he thought, if he had such an one to live in; but, indeed, it was impossible he could pay the rent that must be expected for it. Mr. Farquhar, who had taken one of those likings at first sight, which some people have the good luck to inspire, inquired with delicacy, into the state of the gentleman's circumstances, and prolonged the conversation by various pleasant digressions, with the view, as it seemed, of drawing out a display of his new acquaintance's character. We will not say what grounds Mr. Farquhar had to be pleased with the stranger, but they were such, that at parting it was in these words: 'You say you like the house, sir, and think you would be happy in it; now, sir, as I think you are a worthy man, who deserves to be happy, I make you a present of the house, that you may be so. Have the goodness to call at Mr. —'s, my solicitor, to-morrow, when you will find a conveyance of it made out in your favour.'

Such is Mr. Farquhar, a man whose 'avarice,' we are told, 'may be considered as a disease which he cannot control!'



ANECDOTES OF THE STAGE.

If the Theatre were to be shut up, the Stage wholly silenced and suppressed, I believe the world, bad as it is now, would be ten times more wicked.—LA MOTTE.

Origin of the Drama.

GREECE, the nursery of the arts and sciences, is the parent of the Drama; at least there is record of its having been known among the ancient nations. The different states of Greece have contested the honour of its birth, but it is generally attributed to the Athenians, who derived its origin from the hymns which were sung in the festivals of Bacchus in honour of that deity. While these resounded in the ears of the multitude, choruses of Bacchantes

Fauns ranged round certain images, which they carried in triumphant procession, singing indecent songs, and sometimes ridiculing individuals to public ridicule.

While this was the practice in the cities, a greater licentiousness reigned in the worshipping of the country, and especially at the time when they gathered the fruits of his bountiful beneficence. Vintagers, besmeared with wine lees, and intoxicated with joy and the juice of the grape, rode forth in their carts, attacked each other on the road with sarcasms, revenging themselves on their neighbours with ridicule, and on the rich by abusing their acts of injustice.

The hymns in honour of Bacchus, while they described his rapid progress and splendid conquests, became imitative; and in the contests of the Pythian games, the players on the stage, who entered into competition, were enabled by an express law to represent successfully the circumstances that had preceded, accompanied, and followed the victory of Apollo over Python.

Susarion and Thespis.

Susarion and Thespis the Greek drama in its infancy largely indebted; indeed the latter has almost been considered as the father of the stage, dramatic performers to this day called the children of Thespis. Susarion and Thespis were both of Peania in Attica; each appeared at the

head of a company of actors, the one on a kind of stage, the other in a cart. Susarion, who attacked the vices and follies of the age, represented his first pieces about 580 years before Christ. Thespis, who treated more noble subjects, which he took from history, made his first attempt in tragedy some years before Susarion, and acted his *Alcestis* 536 years before Christ.

The comedies of Susarion were in the same taste with those indecent and satirical farces which were afterwards performed in some of the cities of Greece, and were long the favourite entertainment of the country people.

Thespis had noticed in the festivals in which, as yet, hymns only were sung, that one of the singers, mounted on a table, formed a kind of dialogue with the chorus. From this hint he conceived the idea of introducing into the tragedies, an actor who, by simple recitals introduced at intervals, should give relief to the chorus, divide the action, and render it more interesting. This happy innovation, together with some other liberties in which Thespis indulged, gave alarm to the great Athenian legislator, who was supposed to be better able than any other to discern the value or danger of the novelty. Solon condemned a species of composition in which the ancient traditions were disguised by fictions. 'If,' said he to Thespis, 'we applaud falsehood in our public exhibitions, we shall soon find that it will insinuate itself into our most sacred engagements.'

The pieces of Thespis and Susarion were, however, received with an approbation and delight, both in the city and country, that rendered useless the suspicious foresight of Solon. The poets, who till then had only exercised their genius in dithyrambs and licentious satire, struck with the elegant forms which this species of composition began to assume, dedicated their talents to tragedy and comedy. Comedy soon admitted a greater variety of subjects; and although those who judge of their pleasures only from habit exclaimed that these subjects were foreign to the worship of Bacchus, yet the greater number crowded with still more eagerness after the

new pieces. From this period the progress of the dramatic art was extremely rapid.

Horace says, that the actors whom Thespis carried about in his cart, had their faces besmeared with wine lees; Suidas, that white lead and vermilion were the ingredients employed.

Æschylus.

Æschylus, who was born eleven years after Thespis had first performed his *Alcestis*, found the drama enveloped in a rude vestment, deficient both in grace and dignity, expressing its conceptions sometimes with elegance, but generally in a low and feeble style, polluted with indecencies.

Æschylus was the first to introduce two actors on the stage in his tragedies, and clothed them with dresses suitable to their character. Afterwards copying the example of Sophocles, who had just entered on his theatrical career, he admitted a third, and sometimes even a fourth actor. By this multiplicity of personages, one of his actors naturally became the hero of the piece, and attracted to himself the principal interest; and as the chorus now held but a subordinate station, Æschylus took care to shorten its part materially.

This poet has been censured for admitting mute characters into his dramas; thus Achilles, after the death of his friend, and Niobe after the destruction of her children, appeared on the stage, and remained motionless during several scenes, with their heads covered, and in utter silence. It may, however, be doubted, whether if their eyes had been suffused in tears, and they had poured forth the bitterest lamentations, they could have produced an effect so terrible as this veil, this silence, this abandonment to grief.

Lest the noble and elevated style of tragedy should not leave in the minds of the audience, a sufficient impression of grandeur, it was deemed necessary, in order to captivate the multitude, that every part of the spectacle should combine to produce the same effect. It was then the general opinion that nature, by bestowing on the ancient heroes a more lofty stature, had impressed on their persons a majesty which procured them as much respect from the people, as the ensigns of dignity by which they were accompanied. Æschylus, therefore, raised his actors on high stilts or buskins, and clothed them in flowing and magnificent robes.

Instead of the wretched scaffolds which were formerly erected in haste, Æschylus obtained a theatre furnished with machines, and embellished with decorations. Here the sound of the trumpet was reverberated, incense was seen to burn on the altars, the shades of the dead to arise from the tomb, and the furies to rush from the gulfs of Tartarus. In one of these pieces, these infernal divinities were represented with masks of horrid paleness, torches in their hands, ser-

pents entwined in their hair, and followed by a numerous retinue of dreadful spectres. It is related, that at the sight of them, and the sound of their terrific howlings, terror seized on the whole assembly, women fainted, and children expired with fear; and that the magistrates, to prevent similar accidents in future, commanded that the chorus should only consist of fifteen actors, instead of fifty. The effect of so many new objects could not but astonish the spectators; nor were they less surprised and delighted at the intelligence displayed by the actors, whom Æschylus always exercised himself; he regulated their steps, and taught them to give additional force to their action by new and expressive gestures.

Æschylus wrote ninety tragedies, forty of which were rewarded with the public prize, and yet only seven of them have been preserved. Some expressions in one of his plays had nearly proved fatal to him; for, in consequence of them, he was accused of impiety, and condemned to be stoned to death. The sentence was just going to be put into execution, when his brother Amyntas, with a happy presence of mind throwing aside his cloak, showed an arm, the hand of which had been cut off when bravely fighting at the battle of Salamis, in defence of his country. The sight made such an impression on the judges, that touched with the remembrance of his valour, and the friendship he showed for his brother, they pardoned Æschylus. The poet, however, resented the indignity of this persecution so much, that he bade an everlasting adieu to his native place, and retired to the court of Hiero, King of Sicily, where he lived till his death.

Suidas having said, that Æschylus retired into Sicily because the seats *broke down* during the representation of one of his tragedies, some have taken this literally; but, according to Joseph Scaliger, it was a phrase among the comedians to say, that one had *broken down the seats*, whose piece could not stand, but fell to the ground. The truth was, that the pieces of Æschylus had begun to be less pleasing to the Athenians than those of Sophocles, a younger and more polished writer; and it is to this cause that Suidas, by the figurative expression he has used, would impute the retirement of Æschylus, rather than to any resentment he may have felt for the jeopardy in which his life was placed by the accusation of impiety.

Sophocles.

If Æschylus be styled, as he usually has been, the father, Sophocles certainly demands the title of the master of tragedy, since what the former brought into the world, the other reduced to a more regular form.

Sophocles was five-and-twenty when he conquered his master, Æschylus, in tragedy. Cimon, the Athenian general, having found the bones of Theseus, and brought

ese noble relics with pomp into the city, a ntention of tragedians was appointed, as us usual upon extraordinary occasions. schylus and Sophocles were the two rivals, d the prize was adjudged to Sophocles, hough it was the first play he ever pre- ited in public.

Cicero relates, that this great man continued e profession of his art, even to his latest ars; but his sons resented this severe appli- tion to writing as a neglect of his family d his estate. On this account, they at last ight the business into court before the lges, and petitioned the guardianship of er father, as one that was grown a dotard, d therefore incapable of managing his con- rns. The aged poet being acquainted with e motion, in order to his defence came pre- ntly into court, and recited his *Edipus of lonos*, a tragedy he had just before finished, d then desired to know whether that piece ked like the work of a dotard? There eded no other plea in his favour, for the lges admiring and applauding his wit, not ly acquitted him of the charge, but, as ician adds, voted his sons madmen for ac- sing him. The general story of his death at having exhibited his last play, and tained the prize, he fell into such a trans- rt of joy as carried him off; but Lucian fers from the common report, and affirms at he was choked with a grape-stone, like iacreon.

The passion which Sophocles entertained e drama, was of the noblest and purest scription, and often displayed itself supe- r to every feeling of personal interest or nity. He appeared once on the stage in e character of a mere domestic, who had t a word to utter, but only to play at ball, order that, by his peculiar skill in the art, might give the last finishing grace to e presentation of the tragedy. He probably ough with our poet, that

honour and shame from no condition rise,
e well your part, there all the honour lies.'

Euripides.

Euripides, the contemporary and rival of phocles, had originally devoted himself to study of philosophy; but warned by the e of his master, Anaxagoras (who, under e accusation of despising the public gods, s banished from Athens by the mob), of the nger which then attended all free enquiry, transferred his attention to dramatic poetry. t although he had the fate of Anaxagoras ore his eyes, he was not always so well rded in his remarks as he should have n. He hazarded one relating to e tivity of an oath, in his *Hippolytus*, which ough him into danger. 'My tongue has rn, but still my mind is free.' For this e he was impeached of impiety, as teaching d defending perjury; but it does not appear t he was punished for it. The answer he ide to the accuser is left upon record by istotle: 'That it was a very unreasonable

thing to bring a cause into a Court of Judi- cature, which belonged only to the cognisance of a theatre, and the liberty of a public festival; that when these words were spoken upon the stage, there went along with them some reason to justify them, and that he was ready to justify them whenever the bill should be preferred in the right place.' Another time, Seneca informs us, he incensed the audience highly, by making Bellerophon dog- matize too gravely in favour of avarice; so much so indeed, that they would have driven the actor from the stage, if Euripides himself had not appeared, and besought them to have a little patience, by assuring them that they would soon see the unhappy end of the miser, whose maxims had so highly disgusted the audience.

In general, however, his pieces were pro- digiously applauded; and nothing can better demonstrate the high esteem they were in, than the service they did to the Athenians in Sicily. The Athenian army, under the com- mand of Nicias, suffered all the calamities of unsuccessful war, and the victors took a most cruel advantage of their victories; but al- though they treated the Athenian soldiers with so much inhumanity, yet they are said to have spared such as could repeat any verses of Euripides. 'We are told,' says Plutarch, 'that many who returned safe to their country, kindly saluted Euripides, declaring that they had been restored to their liberty for teaching their victors such of his verses as they remem- bered, and that others who roamed up and down, had meat and drink given them in re- turn for singing his verses.'

Aristophanes.

When Dionysius, King of Syracuse, desired to learn the state and language of Athens, Plato sent him the plays of Aristophanes, telling him, in these he would find the best representation of the Athenian character. Aristophanes was contemporary with Euri- pides and Sophocles. When the Athenians suffered themselves to be governed by men who had no other view than to make them- selves masters of the commonwealth, Aris- tophanes exposed their artifices with great wit and severity upon the stage. Cleo was the first whom he attacked in his comedy of the *Equites*; and when none of the comedians would venture to personate a man of his great authority, Aristophanes acted the character himself with so much success, that the Athe- nians obliged Cleo to pay a fine of five talents, which were given to the poet. The people were besides so well pleased with the satirist, that they cast handfuls of flowers upon his head, and carried him through the city in triumph, with loud acclamations. They made also a public decree, that he should be honoured with a crown of the sacred olive tree on the citadel, which was the greatest honour that could be paid to a citizen.

The *Clouds*, which Aristophanes composed in ridicule of Socrates, is the most celebrated

of all his comedies. Socrates had a contempt for the comic poets, and never went to see their plays, except when Alcibiades or Critias obliged him to go thither. As he was a man of piety, probity, candour, and wisdom, he could not bear that the characters of his fellow-citizens should be insulted and abused. This contempt which he expressed of the comic poets, was the ground of their aversion to him, and the motive of Aristophanes's writing the *Clouds* against him. Madame Dacier tells us she was so much charmed with his performance, that after she had translated it, and read it over two hundred times, it did not become tedious; and that the pleasure she received from it was so exquisite, as to make her forget all the contempt and indignation which Aristophanes deserved, for employing his wit to ruin a man who was wisdom itself, and the greatest ornament in the city of Athens.

Menander.

Menander may be regarded as the father of what is called *the new comedy* in Greece, which, if inferior to the old in strength and fire, far exceeded it in delicacy, regularity, and decorum, came nearer to nature, and to what we conceive of the legitimate drama. Among his contemporaries who wrote upon this reformed plan, were Philemon, Diphilus, Pollodorus, Philippides, and Posidippus; and from many fragments which remain, it appears that they were not only bold declaimers against the vice and immorality of the age in which they lived, but that they ventured upon truths and doctrines in religion, totally irreconcilable to the popular superstitions and idolatries of the Heathen world; and, therefore, says Cumberland, or rather Bently, we cannot but admire the extraordinary toleration of their pagan audiences.

According to some accounts, Menander wrote eighty plays, while others more than double that amount; but whatever may have been their number, it has been thought that morality, taste, and literature scarcely ever suffered more irreparably than by the loss of them. A few fragments only remain, which, says Warton, ought 'to be as highly prized by the curious, as was the *Coan Venus*, which Apelles left imperfect and unfinished.'

We have many testimonies of the admiration in which he was held during his life time. Pliny informs us, that the kings of Egypt and Macedon sent ambassadors to invite him to their courts and even fleets to convey him; but that Menander preferred the free enjoyment of his studies, to the promised favours of the great. Yet the envy and corruption of his countrymen sometimes denied his merit that justice at home which is found abroad; for notwithstanding the astonishing number of plays which he wrote, he won no more than eight prizes. Philemon, a contemporary, and much inferior dramatic poet, by the partiality of the judges, often disappointed him of the laurel; which made Menander once say to

him, 'Tell me fairly, Philemon, if you do not blush when the victory is decreed to you against me?' Menander's wonderful talent at expressing nature in every condition, and under every accident of life, gave occasion to Aristophanes, the grammarian, to utter this extraordinary invocation: 'O! Menander and Nature, which of you copied your pieces from the other's work?' And Ovid, from a similar impression of his excellence, has thus pronounced his immortality:

'Dum fallax servus, durus pater, improba
læna

Vivet: dum meretrix blanda, Menander
erit.'

Grecian Stage.

The theatre of Bacchus in Athens, was built by the famous architect Philos, in the time of Pericles. The audience part was of a semicircular form, at the diameter of which the stage was erected. The orchestra occupied the place where the pit in modern theatres is situated; and here the music, the chorus, and the mimi were placed. It was elevated four feet above the ground. The spectators were arranged in three galleries, round all the sides of the orchestra, except that next the stage: each gallery containing eight rows of seats. At the farther end of the orchestra, where the stage is erected in modern theatres, stood the thymele, or logeon, but projecting a little towards the audience. It was a little higher than the orchestra, and in some theatres was only six feet square. Here the principal part of the chorus made their recitations, and in comical interludes the mimi performed. Behind the thymele appeared the stage, considerably elevated. No part of this theatre was covered, except the stage, and a high gallery called *cirrys*, set apart for the women. The Athenians being thus exposed to the weather, came usually with great cloaks, to secure them from the rain or cold; and for defence against the sun, they had the *sciadion*, a kind of parasol, which the Romans used also in their theatres, by the name of *umbellæ*; but when a sudden storm arose, the play was interrupted, and the spectators dispersed.

At Athens the plays were always represented in the day time, which made the unroofed theatres less inconvenient.

The chorus in the Grecian theatre was, according as the subject demanded, composed of men and women, old men or youths, citizens or slaves, priests, soldiers, &c. The chorus came upon the stage preceded by a flute player, who regulated their steps, sometimes one after the other: but in tragedy, more frequently three in front and five in depth, or five in front and three in depth.

Grecian Actors.

In ancient Greece, the same persons performed in tragedy and comedy, but it was very rarely that one person excelled in both.

the pay of those who had acquired great reputation was considerable. Polus, one of the best celebrated of the Grecian actors, gained talent, which was equal to £225 sterling, in 10 days. Players of eminence in Greece were solicited to attend the festivals. If, after making an engagement, they failed to attend, they were obliged to pay a fixed sum of money; and if they were absent during the festival of their own republic, they were condemned to a still heavier penalty.

Roman Drama.

Dramatic entertainments were introduced into Rome in the year of the city 391. They were called *ludi scenici*, because they were acted in a shade formed by the branches and leaves of trees. They originally consisted of more than dances to the sound of a flute, without either singing or acting. These were formed by Etrurians, who were the first actors at Rome; but the Roman youth soon imitated them at their solemn festivals, adding raillery in rude verses and gestures, suited to the subject. These were called *Fescennine* verses, from the town Fescennia in Etruria, where they had originated.

It was not until about the year of Rome 400 that an attempt was made to represent a regular play, written by Livius Andronicus, the first Latin dramatic poet. From this period, the drama progressively improved, and plays which still exist sufficiently attest the excellence to which this species of composition arrived; while the fortunes acquired by the actors afford ample proof of the estimation in which the histrionic art was held, notwithstanding that, according to the Roman law, the profession of an actor was declared infamous, and those who practised it were deprived of the rights of citizens.

The Roman comedy was at first wholly borrowed from the Greeks, and it was long before the Latin stage could boast of an original composition. When delivered from the trammels of imitation, their plays became more descriptive of Roman character and manners; but it may be doubted whether they did not lose more in purity of taste than they gained in originality: for we find that the stage degenerated soon after the fall of the republic, and was at length abandoned to buffoons.

Tragedy was not introduced at Rome until after comedy was known: and the pieces extant are so few, as to afford but little scope for judging of the general merit of the Roman tragic muse.

The Roman play was usually succeeded by a farce performed by amateurs. These were called *Atellane comedies*, in which the actors, speaking from any written dialogue, resorted to the spontaneous effusion of their feelings: a licence which they frequently abused by the introduction of much gross language. The performers in the Atellane were not so much compelled by the audience to un-

mask, nor were they, like the common actors, deprived of their civil rights.

Interludes of dancing, and processions of exhibitions of animals, and combats of gladiators, were generally introduced between the acts; and these, together with pantomimical representations, tumbling and rope dancing, constituted so great a portion of the entertainment, that they at length superseded the regular drama.

A singular custom prevailed on the Roman stage; the occasional division of the same part between two actors, the one reciting, while the other accompanied him with the appropriate gesture. This appears to have been confined to the recitation of verses, or single speeches, for we do not find that it was applied to dialogue; and it was originally introduced for the convenience of a favourite performer, who was rendered hoarse by his obedience to reiterated calls of '*encore*.'

Plautus.

At the same time that Cato was distinguished for his eloquence in the forum, Plautus was renowned for his comic representations on the stage. According to Varro, he was so well paid for his plays, as to think of doubling his stock by trading. In this speculation, however, he was so unfortunate, that he lost all he had acquired by the muses, and for his subsistence was reduced, in a time of general famine, to work at a mill. How long he continued in this distress is uncertain; but Varro adds, that the poet's wit was his best support, and that he composed three plays during this daily drudgery.

Terence.

Terence, although one of the purest of the Roman writers, was of African origin. He was a native of Carthage, and brought early to Rome among other slaves; but fell into the hands of a generous master, Terentius Lucanus, who gave him first a good education, and afterwards his liberty. Agreeably to a custom of the Romans, he took the name of his master; and thus by a singular fatality, says Madame Dacier, while he has immortalized the name of his master, he has not been able to preserve his own.

When Terence offered his first play, Cæcilius was not only the oldest, but considered the best poet of the age; much regard was therefore paid to his judgment; and the ædile, before he would look at Terence's production, told him to wait upon Cæcilius, and take his opinion upon it. The old gentleman being at table, bid the young author take a stool, and begin to read it to him. It is observed by Suetonius, that Terence's dress was mean, so that his outside did not much recommend him; but he had not gone through the first scene, when Cæcilius was so pleased, that he invited him to sit at table with him, and defer the reading of the remainder of the play till after

supper. Cæcilius on hearing so to the end, found only more and more reason to admire; he dismissed the author with a most flattering testimonial of his approbation; the play was brought out, and attended with a success which at once established Terence's fame as a dramatic writer.

The plays of Terence appear to have brought him in very large sums. He received eight thousand sesterces for his *Eunuch*, which was acted twice in one day, a piece of good fortune which perhaps never happened to any other play, for plays with the Romans were never designed to serve above two or three times. For the rest he was no doubt equally well paid; since it appears from the prologue to the *Hecyra*, that the poets used to be paid every time their play was acted. At this rate, Terence must have made a handsome fortune before he died, for most of his plays were acted more than once in his lifetime; and yet a notion has prevailed, for what reason it is difficult to discover, that he died in poverty. He left a daughter, who was afterwards married to a Roman knight, and it is certain that he left also a house and gardens on the Appian way, near the Villa Martis.

Roman Theatre.

The first permanent theatre erected within the city of Rome, was upon a scale of colossal magnificence. It was calculated to contain 40,000 spectators, and others were afterwards raised of still more stupendous dimensions. They were at first open at the top, and awnings were used to guard against the sun and rain, nor were the audience accommodated with seats; but at a later period they were covered, and built with regular rows of stone benches, rising above each other, and divided according to the rank of those who were to occupy them. The lowest rows were appropriated to the senators and foreign ambassadors, the next fourteen to the knights, and the remainder to the public; and it appears, that the foremost seats were covered with cushions, while those assigned to the lower classes were left bare. As all were equally admitted gratuitously, these distinctions gave very great offence to the people; and with the greater apparent reason, as they were not observed in the circus; but they were, notwithstanding, rigidly enforced, and inspectors were appointed at the theatres, who regulated the distribution of places according to the rank of the parties. The stage was constructed in much the same manner as at present, except that the orchestra was equally appropriated to dancing and music. The scenery and decorations were equally of the most splendid description, and were screened during the intervals of the performance by a silken curtain.

Theatres of Pompeii.

Among the classic ruins of Pompeii, there are the comic and tragic theatres. Of these, the last is by far the largest edifice, and in point

of architecture, is one of the most beautiful structures at Pompeii. It was lined throughout with white marble, and still exhibits the circular seats, the orchestra, and places where the curtains seem to have been fixed; the stage, which appears to have been adorned with statues; the dressing rooms, the benches for patricians in the lower part of the Cavea, and those for the inferior classes of people in the upper part; the egress for patricians, the egress and stairs for plebeians, the gallery round the top of the building for ladies, the stairs which led to this gallery and the blocks of marble projecting from its wall, so as to support the woodwork, to which, in case of rain or intense heat, an awning was fastened. The orchestra, as was usual in ancient theatres, is enclosed between dwarf walls, and divides the stage from that portion of the edifice which contained the audience. The stage is very wide, but so shallow, that much scenery could not have been used; although the ancients changed their scenes by aid of engines, with which they turned the partition called the *scena* round at pleasure. There are three entrances for the actors, all in front; and behind the stage were the dressing rooms. This theatre is built on the side of a hill, according to the custom of the Greeks; and on the top of this hill was an extensive portico (the columns of which still remain) intended most probably to shelter the spectators in wet weather, and likewise to serve as a public walk, the view it commands being delightful.

Roscius.

Quintus Roscius, a Roman actor, became so celebrated upon the stage, that every actor of superior eminence to his contemporaries, has been since called the *Roscius*. It is said, that he was not without some personal defects, particularly his eyes were so distorted, that he always appeared upon the stage with a mask; but the Romans frequently constrained him to take it off, and overlooked the deformities of his face, that they might the better hear his elegant pronunciation. In private life he was so much esteemed, as to be elevated to the rank of senator. When falsely accused, Cicero, who had been one of his pupils, undertook his defence, and cleared him of the malevolent aspirations of his enemies, in a eloquent oration extant in his works. Roscius is said to have written a treatise, which he did not escape the wreck of time, comparing with great success and erudition, the profession of the orator with that of the comedian. His daily pay for acting is said to have been 1000 denarii, or £32 6s. English money, though Cicero makes his annual income amount to the enormous sum of £48,434 10s.

Dr. Burney observes, that there are several passages in Cicero concerning Roscius, which if the ancient actors, Romans as well as Greeks, did not declaim in musical notes, would be wholly unintelligible. He tells us (de Orat.) that Roscius had always said, when age should diminish his powers, he would not

tion the stage, but would proportion his ornaments to his strength, and make music conform to the weakness of his voice; which happened, for the same author informs that in his old age he sung in a lower pitch of voice, and made the Tibicines play slower. There were combats, or contests, established by the ancients for the voice, as well as for the parts of the *gymnastice*, those who attended the management of the voice, were called *phonastæ*, and under their instructions put all those who were destined to be poets, singers, and comedians. Roscius had an academy for declamation, at which he taught several persons preparatory to their acting in public, or appearing upon the stage.

These are proofs sufficient of the poetic declamation of the ancients being aided in musical tones, agreeing with those of musical instruments by which they were accompanied.

Roman Actors

In the ancient Roman theatres, the audience showed their applause or censure in the same manner, by hisses or cheers, and indulged the pretensions of different actors to much warmth, that the representation often interrupted, and quarrels ensued, terminated in bloodshed. Such, indeed, was the partiality of the people to theatrical representations, that every eminent player had his party; and their absurd factions rendered the theatre a constant scene of riot and disturbance.

Persons of the highest rank took part in the brawls, which were, at length, carried so far, as to attract the attention of the emperor; and in the reign of Tiberius, the actors were, in consequence, banished from Rome.

There was an extraordinary, and somewhat ridiculous influence acquired by the actors, excited by the surprise, as we are told, that although they were by the great, and liberally rewarded by the public, they never were freed from the penalties of the law, which held their profession to be infamous; and indeed the masters of those who embraced it were slaves. Augustus, who was their greatest protector, ordered one celebrated comedian to be whipped, for having presumed to intimate with a Roman matron; and banished another from Italy, for affronting one of the senators who hissed him.

The Troubadours.

It was towards the close of the eleventh century, that the Provençal poets, known by the name of Troubadours, waked the muses from their slumber during the dark ages, and revived the first idea in France of those representations which have since become so popular. The troubadours composed various kinds of songs on love and gallantry, on the illustrious characters and remarkable events of the times, and satires which were chiefly directed against the clergy and monks. The

voyages which the kings and princes of Europe made to the Holy Land, and the victories they gained over the Saracens, were also celebrated by them. The poems of the Troubadours brought the Provençal language into vogue throughout Europe, and these poets attained to such great repute, that the emperors Frederic I. and II. invited several to their court; and Richard Cœur de Lion of England, honoured them with his friendship and protection. They had their comedians and their ministers, or musicians, constantly attending them.

These Provençal poets flourished in Europe about two centuries and a half, namely, from 1120 till 1382. In the year 1220, died Anselm de Faydit, a famous Troubadour, who was the author of the 'Heresy of the Fathers,' a satirical piece, which Boniface, Marquess of Montserrat, had publicly performed at his country seat. Richard the First is said to have brought Faydit to England, and to have made him very considerable presents. Faydit was a player and a musician as well as a poet. His wife was of one of the first families of Provence; and having a very beautiful voice, Faydit made her sing in his pieces. Richard was a passionate lover of poetry himself; there remain some pieces of his composition; and he bears a rank among the Troubadours, or Provençal poets of his time. In consequence of his introducing Faydit and other French authors, interludes and other performances began to be exhibited in families of distinction, both by persons hired for the purpose, and even by the great themselves.

Another Troubadour, Lecco de Grimauld, who died in 1380, wrote several comedies against Pope Boniface VIII. Rene d'Anjou, King of Naples and Sicily, and Count of Provence, produced several rondeaus, ballads, and comedies. But the greatest poet of Provence was Parafols, who wrote five satirical comedies against Ivan I. Queen of Naples, which he dedicated to Pope Clement VII. who then resided at Avignon. As many of these pieces have not been handed down to us, it is difficult to give any particular or certain account of them; but one may venture to pronounce, that they more resemble dialogues, which expressed the action satirized by the author, than comedies such as were began to be written in the reign of Charles IX. In the year 1313, we find that Philip le Bel gave a grand entertainment at Paris, which was the most magnificent ever seen there. To it came our King Edward II. who had married Isabel, his daughter, bringing her and a numerous retinue of the English nobility with him. This entertainment lasted eight days; and plays were acted, representing the 'happiness of the blessed, and the miserable state of the wicked.'

Mysteries.

Mysteries were among the earliest species of dramatic representation in modern Europe. They are supposed to have originated with

the pilgrims in France, who, on returning from the Holy Land, or other places to which their devotion had led them, used to sing verses, composed by themselves, on the subject of their pilgrimages, in which they also celebrated the history of Jesus Christ, and the legends, miracles, and wondrous tales of the saints and martyrs. These compositions were very rude; but the simplicity of the times, the piety of the subject, and the sanctity of the characters, rendered them attractive with the people.

The church soon perceived the fondness of the people for these entertainments, and thought them a fit means for exciting devotion in the minds of the multitude, who are always attracted by pomp and show. In order, therefore, to effect this purpose, stages were erected, on which the pilgrims regularly exhibited on holidays. The monologue was improved into dialogue, and afterwards into a regular historical story. The Creation of the World, with the fall of Adam and Eve; the story of Joseph, and even the Incarnation and Sufferings of the Son of God, were some of the subjects of mysteries. To these were added occasionally, the lives and miracles of the saints. Thus sprung up a species of religious drama which became common throughout all Christendom, particularly in those places where religious pilgrimages were patronized.

The appearance of these pilgrims in the spectacles, excited some shopkeepers in Paris to raise a subscription for purchasing a piece of ground proper to build a theatre, where these mysteries were represented on all festivals and holidays, for the instruction of the people. In these theatres, scenery was introduced which was fixed to the walls; on the top was the figure of a very venerable old man, seated in the clouds and surrounded by angels; beneath, and at the farther end of the stage, was the head of a large dragon, with its mouth made to open and shut—this represented hell. The performers were placed on the stage all at a time; sitting down or rising up from their seats, as they had ended or were to begin their parts, so that they were the whole time before the audience.

The first attempt was at St. Maur, about two leagues from Paris. The subject was, 'The Passion of our Saviour,' which, from the novelty, attracted a great concourse of spectators; and the company usually went by the name of the 'Brethren of the Passion.' In the year 1398, they were interrupted by an ordinance of the Provost of Paris; but they obtained the king's permission, and proceeded without farther molestation. Charles VI. was present at several of their representations; and was so well pleased, that he granted them a patent, bearing date October 4, 1402; made them part of the royal household; and authorized them to perform any mystery whatever, whether of the passion or resurrection of our Saviour, or of any of the saints, at what times and wheresoever they pleased, before the king or his subjects, and with music or without; and in consequence thereof, they

soon after established the first French theatre, at 'The Hospital of the Trinity.'

The reigns of Charles the Sixth and Seventh, and part of that of Louis XI., though greatly troubled by intestine broils and factions, did not much disturb these performances; on the contrary, other companies were erected, such as the 'Children of Sans Souci,' and the 'Clerks of La Bazoehe.' It was some time before the French people were sated with the mysteries; at length they judged them too serious, and scenes were introduced from profane and burlesque subjects, which gave great amusement. The games went by the general name of 'Fooleries;' and were usually performed by the children of Sans Souci, the chief of whom was called 'The Prince of Fools.' In this manner the brethren of the pilgrims supported themselves, until the reign of Francis I., who, in the year 1518, granted them letters patent, whereby all the privileges they had obtained from Charles VI. were renewed. They continued their representations till the year 1539, when the Trinity House was again converted into an hospital. They then hired part of the 'Hôtel de Flandres,' where they performed till 1543, when they were again driven out, and the hotel sold and demolished. Thus harassed, they resolved on building a theatre for themselves. They accordingly purchased a piece of the ground on which the Hotel of Burgundy had formerly stood, fronting the streets St. Francis and Maneoncil. The theatre had, however, no sooner been erected, than an arrêt of the Parliament of Paris in 1548, prohibited the company from ever representing any mysteries, 'whether relating to our Saviour or his saints;' and at the same time prohibiting any other companies (except those of the brethren from performing in Paris or its suburbs. Thus constrained, they exhibited profane subjects until 1588, when they transferred their privileges and let their house to a company of comedians.

Mysteries Improved into Moralities.

The earliest date in which we find express mention of the representation of mysteries in England, is in the year 1378, when the scholars of St. Paul's school presented a petition to Richard II., praying his majesty 'to prohibit some unexpert people from presenting the history of the Old Testament, to the great prejudice of the said clergy, who have been at great expense in order to represent it publicly at Christmas.' In 1390, the parsons and clerks of London are said to have played interludes at Skinner's Well, July 18, 19, 20; and in 1409 they acted a play concerning the creation of the world, for eight successive days, at Clerkenwell (which took its name from the custom), at which were present most of the nobility and gentry of the kingdom. The mysteries were succeeded by the moralities; the former only represented some

	℥	s.	d.
icians, for which, however,			
ey were bound to perform			
ree nights	0	5	6
ayers, in bread and ale	0	3	1
decorations, dresses, and play			
oks	1	0	0
n H. obard, priest, and author			
the piece	0	2	8
place in which the represen-			
tion was held	0	1	0
iture	0	1	4
i and bread	0	0	4
inting three phantoms and			
ils	0	0	6
four chickens for the hero	0	0	4

steries and moralities succeeded what
illed interludes, which made some
hes to wit and humour; and for these
eywood, the epigrammatist, who was
Henry VIII., claims the earliest, if
foremost place. *Gammer Gurton's*
which is generally called our first
appeared soon after the interludes.
written by John Still, afterwards
of Bath and Wells, and published in
his comedy, though altogether of a
st, and not wanting in humour, affords
ace of the simplicity which must ever
n the early dawnings of genius. The
his piece, which is written in metre,
out into five regular acts, is nothing
n *Gammer Gurton's* having mislaid
lle with which she was mending her
dge's breeches against the ensuing
and which, by way of catastrophe to
, is, after much search, great alterca-
d some battles in its cause, at last
icking in the breeches themselves.
ginal title runs thus: 'A Right
Pleasant, and Merie Comedie, In-

In the reign of Edward III. it was ordained by Act of Parliament that a company of men called vagrants, who had made masquerades through the city, should be whipped out of London, because they represented scandalous things in the little ale-houses and other places where the populace assembled. What the

nature of these scandalous things was we are not told; it is, however, most probable that the actors were of that species called mummings; these were wont to stroll about the country, dressed in an antic manner, dancing, mimicking, and showing postures; and as they always went masked and disguised, they were guilty of many outrages. However, bad as they were, they seem to be the true original comedians of England; and their excellence altogether consisted, as that of their successors does in part still, in mimicry and humour.

In an Act of Parliament passed in the 4th of Henry IV., mention is made of certain wasters, master rimours, minstrels, and other vagabonds, who infested the land of Wales; and it is enacted 'that no master rimour, minstrel, or other vagabond, be in anywise sustained in the land of Wales, to make commoiths or gatherings upon the people there.' It is difficult to determine what these master rimours were, and what is meant by their making *commoiths*; the word signifies in Welsh any district, or part of a hundred or contred, containing about one half of it, that is, fifty villages; and might possibly be made use of by these master rimours, when they had fixed upon a place to act in, and gave intimation thereof for ten or twelve miles, which is a circuit that will take in about fifty villages. In support of this conjecture, we may quote Carew, who in his 'Survey of Cornwall,' written in Queen Elizabeth's time, speaking of the diversions of the people, says, 'The guar-y-miracle, in English, a miracle play, is a kind of interlude, compiled in Cornish, out of some scripture history. For representing it, they raise an amphitheatre in some open field, having the diameters of its inclosed plain some forty or fifty feet. The country people flock from all sides many miles off, to see and hear it, for they have therein devils and devices, to delight as well the eye as the ear.'

Stage before Shakspeare's Time.

It was not until the middle of the sixteenth century that dramatic writers began to appear in England, and devote their talents to the stage. One or two pieces had been published under the classic names of comedy and tragedy, but they do not appear to have been intended for popular use. It was not until the religious ferment had subsided that the public had leisure to attend to dramatic poetry, and royalty not only witnessed the productions, but joined in the performance. Herbert relates that at a banquet given by Henry VIII. to Francis I. at Greenwich, he was entertained 'with a sumptuous feast and a comedy, in which his daughter, the Princess Mary, acted a part.'

Henry Parker, son of Sir William Parker, is said to have written several tragedies and comedies in the reign of Henry VIII.; and one John Hoker, in 1535, wrote a comedy called 'Piscator, or the Fisher Caught.' Mr.

Richard Edwards also wrote two comedies, one called *Palamon and Arcyte*, in which a cry of hounds in hunting was so well imitated that the queen and the audience were extremely delighted; the other called *Damon and Pithias*, two the most faithful friends.' About the same time came Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, and Thomas Norton, the writers of *Gorboduc*, the first dramatic piece of any consideration in the English language. Puttenham, in his 'Art of Poetry,' says, 'I think that for tragedy, the Lord of Buckhurst and Maister Edward Ferrys [Ferrers], for such doings as I have seen of theirs, do deserve the highest praise. The Earl of Oxford, and Maister Edwards of her majesty's chapel, for comedy and interlude.' Of this Edward Ferrys, no remains are left, not even the titles of anything he wrote. After these followed John Lyly, famous in his time for wit; and having improved the English language in a romance, which he wrote, entitled 'Euphues and his England, or the Anatomy of Wit,' of which it is said by the publisher of his play that he began the English language, 'and that beauty in court who could not parle Euphuic was as little regarded as she which now then speaks not French.' This romance, so much famed in the court of Queen Elizabeth, is an unnatural affected jargon of metaphors, allusions, and stiff bombast.

The plays of this age and long before, were frequently personal satires, as appears from a MS. letter from Sir John Hallies to the Lord Treasurer Burleigh, found among the papers belonging to the House of Commons, in which the knight accused his lordship of having said some dishonourable things of him, and his family, particularly that his grandfather, who had been dead seventy years, was a man so remarkably covetous that the common players represented him before the court with great applause.

No sooner had the stage begun to talk, it became scurrilous, and its first mark of sense were seen in ribaldry and licentiousness; but the zeal of the pulpit and the gravity of the city equally concurred to condemn it. Stephen Gosson, in 1579, published a book entitled 'The School of Abuse; or, Pleasant Invective against Poets, Players, Jesters, and such like Caterpillars of the Commonwealth,' dedicated to Sir Philip Sydney. He also wrote 'Plays confuted in Five Actions,' proving that they are not to be suffered in a christian commonwealth. Defendants in this controversy were Thomas Lodge, who wrote a play, called *A Glass for London and England*, and a voluminous dramatic writer, Thomas Heywood.

Rude as was the state of the drama at this time in England, yet we had made a better progress than the French, and were on a footing with the other nations of Europe, Italy excepted. But now all at once the drama received birth and perfection, from the creative genius of Shakspeare, Fletcher, Beaumont, and Jonson.

First English Company.

The first patent for a company of players we have any account of, is one granted 574 to James Burbage, and others, servants to the Earl of Leicester. The next company regularly established consisted of children of the royal chapel, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth's reign: the direction of whom was given to Mr. Richard Tarlton, one of the gentlemen of the chapel, author of two comedies; some few years afterwards the company received the denomination of the *Children of the Revels*. These companies became very famous, and all their plays, and many of Jonson's and others, were first acted by them; and it was their estimation, that the commoners grew jealous of them, as may be inferred from a scene in *Hamlet*.

In the request of Sir Francis Walsingham, in Elizabeth established in handsome houses, twelve of the principal players of the time, who went under the name of her Majesty's comedians and servants. But, except some of these, many noblemen retained companies, who acted not only privately in 'lordships' houses, but publicly under license and protection.

It is not easy to ascertain what were the payments of a successful actor at this time. They had not then annual benefits, the present day; the performers at each theatre appear to have shared the profits equally either from each day's exhibition, or the whole season among them. From Jonson's 'Poetaster' we learn that one of the proprietors or performers had seven shares of a half, but of what integral sum is not ascertained. From the prices of admission at ancient theatres, it may be supposed the utmost sum the sharers of the Globe Theatre could have received on any one night was about £35. So lately as the year 1730 Shadwell received £130 by his third night in the representation of the *Squire of Trinculo*, which Downes, the prompter, says is the largest sum ever taken at Drury Lane Theatre at single prices.

It appears from the MSS. of Lord Stanhope, treasurer of the chamber to King Henry the First, that the customary sum paid to Heminge and his company, for the performance of a play at court, was twenty or six pounds thirteen shillings and six pence. And Edward Alleyn mentions in his diary, that he once had so slender a share in his theatre, called the Fortune, that the whole receipt of the house amounted to more than three pounds and some odd pence.

Masques.

During the reign of King James the First, the fashion for the nobility to celebrate weddings, birth-days, and other occasions of rejoicing, with masques and interludes, many of which were exhibited with

surprising expense; that great architect, Inigo Jones, being frequently employed to furnish decorations with all the magnificence of his invention. The king and queen, with their lords and ladies, sometimes performed in these masques at court, and all their nobility in private houses; to this humour it is that we owe the inimitable *Masque at Ludlow Castle*. This eagerness for theatrical diversions, continued during the whole reign of King James, and great part of that of Charles I., until Puritanism overturned the constitution, and totally suppressed all plays and playhouses.

Manners Improved by the Drama.

Howel, in his 'Londinopolis,' speaking of the 'tragedies, comedies, histories, and interludes,' that were in his day represented in the various theatres of the metropolis, says, 'It was a true observation, that those comical and tragical histories did much improve and enrich the English language; they taught young men witty compliments, and how to carry their bodies in a handsome posture; add hereunto, that they instructed them in the stories of divers things, which being so lively represented to the eye, made firmer impressions in the memory. Lastly, they reclaimed many from vice and vanity; for though a comedy be never so wanton, yet it ends with virtue, and the punishment of vice.'

Inn Yards the First Theatres in England.

Several of our ancient dramatic pieces were performed in the yards of carriers' inns; in which, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the comedians, who then first united themselves into companies, erected an occasional stage. The form of these temporary playhouses seems to be preserved in our modern theatres. The galleries are both ranged over each other on three sides of the building. The small rooms under the lowest of the galleries answer to our present boxes; and it is observable, that these, even in theatres which were built in a subsequent period expressly for dramatic exhibitions, still retain their old name, and are frequently called rooms by our ancient writers. The inn-yard bears a sufficient resemblance to the pit as at present in use. The stage is supposed to have been raised in this area, on the fourth side, with its back to the gateway of the inn, at which the admission money was taken. Hence, in most of the theatres during the time of Shakespeare, there was an open yard or area, where people stood to see the exhibition; and to this the poet alludes in Hamlet's advice to the players, when he bids them 'not tear a passion to tatters, to very

rag, to split the ears of *the groundlings*; and Ben Jonson calls them 'the understanding gentlemen of the ground.'

The Globe, and Blackfriars.

The Globe and the theatre in Blackfriars, where most, if not all, of Shakespeare's plays were first performed, both belonged to the same company of comedians, who assumed the title of his majesty's servants, after a licence had been granted them by King James I. in 1603. They had previously been called the servants of the Lord Chamberlain.

The theatre in Blackfriars, was a private theatre, very small, and plays were usually represented there by candle light. The Globe, situated on the southern side of the river Thames, was an hexagonal building, partly open to the weather, and partly covered with reeds. It was a public theatre of considerable size, and there they always acted during the day. On the roof of the Globe, and the other public theatres, a pole was erected, to which a flag was affixed, but it was only displayed during the hours of exhibition. The Globe, though possessing an hexagonal exterior, is believed to have been a rotunda within, and to have received its name from its circular form; though it was more probably denominated the Globe, from its sign, which was the figure of Atlas. The Globe was burnt down in 1613, but it was rebuilt in the following year, and decorated with more ornament than had originally been bestowed upon it.

It has been said, that one of these theatres was a summer, and the other a winter house. The Globe was partly exposed to the weather, and they usually acted there by daylight, so that it was most probably the summer theatre. The exhibitions at the Globe, were more frequent than at Blackfriars, at least till the year 1604 or 1605, when the Bankside appears to have become less fashionable and less frequented than it had formerly been.

In the ancient playhouses, there appears to have been a private box, of which it is not easy to ascertain the situation. It seems to have been placed at the side of the stage towards the rear, and to have been at a lower price; in this some people sat, either from economy or singularity.

From several passages in our old plays, we learn, that spectators were admitted on the stage, and that the critics and wits of the time usually sat there, either on the ground or on stools. They were attended by pages, who furnished them with pipes and tobacco, which was smoked here, as well as in other parts of the house; yet it would seem, that persons were suffered to sit on the stage, only in the private playhouses, such as Blackfriars, &c., where the audience was more select, and of a higher class; and that in the Globe, and other public theatres, no such licence was permitted.

The stage was strewed with rushes, which, as we learn from Hentzer and Caius de

Ephemera, was in the sixteenth century, the usual coverings of floors in England. Towards the rear of the stage, there was a balcony, about eight or ten feet from the ground, supported by pillars; from this balcony, in many of our old plays, the dialogue was spoken. The invention of trap doors was not modern, for in an old 'morality,' entitled, *All for Money*, we find a marginal direction, which shows that they were very early in use. The covering, or internal roof of the stage, was painted of a sky blue colour, and anciently termed the heavens.

In the time of Shakspeare, the prices of admission to the galleries, or scaffolds, as they were called, and that part of the house which in private theatres was named the pit, seems to have been the same; and in houses of reputation, such as the Globe and Blackfriars, that price was sixpence, while in some inferior playhouses, it was only one penny, others twopence. The price of admission into the best rooms, or boxes, was a shilling, though afterwards it was raised to two shillings, and half-a-crown. The seats on the stage were sixpence, and a shilling.

Ancient Play Bills.

The long and whimsical titles prefixed to some of the early editions of Shakspeare's plays, are supposed to have been copied from the playbills of the time. A contemporary writer has preserved a poetical description of a playbill of those days, which seems to corroborate this observation; for if it were divested of rhyme, it would bear no very distant resemblance to the title pages of some of the dramas of our immortal bard:—

—— Prithee what's the play?

(The first I visited this twelvemonth day)
They say, "A new invented play of Pur-
That jeopardied his neck to steal a girl
Of twelve; that lying fast impounded fort,
Has hither sent his bearde to act his part,
Against all those in open malice bent,
That would not freely to the theft consent.
Feigns all to's wish, and in the epilogue
Goes out applauded for a famous rogue."

Now hang me if I did not look at first
For some such stuff, by the fond peoples
thrust.'

Scenery.

It has been a question of much literary controversy, whether in our ancient theatres there were side and other scenes. The question is involved in so much obscurity, that it is difficult to decide upon it. In Shakspeare's time, the want of scenery seems to have been supplied by the simple expedient of writing the names of the different places where the scene was laid in the progress of the play on large scrolls, which were disposed in such a manner, as to be visible to the audience.

In the year 1605, Inigo Jones exhibited at

tainment at Oxford, in which moveable sets were used; and he appears to have introduced in the masques at court, several kinds of machinery, with which the public were then unacquainted, as the custom of our ancient stage seldom went beyond a painted chair, or a trap door. When

Henry the Eighth is to be discovered by the Dukes of Suffolk and Norfolk, reading in study, the scenical direction in the first edition of Shakspeare's plays, printed 1623, apparently from playhouse copies, 'the king draws the curtain, and sits read-insensively;' for besides the principal curtain that hung in front of the stage, they used others as substitutes for scenes. If a bed-chamber was to be exhibited, no change of scene was mentioned; but the property man simply ordered to thrust forth a bed.

The fable required the Roman capitol exhibited, two officers entered, 'to lay down as it were in the capitol.' On the stage it appears, that our ancient theatres in London were only furnished with curtains, which were opened in the middle, and were drawn up by cords and forwards on an iron rod. The scene composed of tapestry, which was sometimes perhaps ornamented with pictures; and some passages in our old plays seem to favour the opinion, that when tragedies were performed, the stage was covered with black.

Suppression of the Stage by the Puritans.

The drama had just burst forth in splendour, and actors and theatres were rising to do justice to the noble conceptions of a Shakspeare, Jonson, a Beaumont, and a Fletcher. The spirit of puritanism rose, and suppressed the theatre. This was effected by the ordinance of the Long Parliament, the 22nd of October, 1647, and the 11th of January, 1647-8, by which all stage plays and interludes were positively forbidden, and the galleries of the theatres ordered pulled down. All the stage players, actors, and interluders, and common plays, were declared to be rogues, and liable to be punished according to the statutes of 39th of Elizabeth, and 7th of James I. The mayor, justices, and sheriffs, were ordered to demolish all playhouses, and apprehend any persons guilty of acting, who were publicly whipped, bound in recognizance to act no more, and in case of offence, they were declared incorrigible rogues, and to be punished and dealt with as such. It was also declared, that all persons collected at playhouses, should be liable to the poor; and a penalty of five pounds was imposed on every person who should be convicted at any dramatic entertainment.

This severe ordinance, the performance of which was frequently interrupted, even at the commencement of hostilities between Charles and his parliament, the issue of which

was alike fatal to monarchy and to the stage.

On the suppression of the theatres, nearly the whole of the performers entered the army in favour of the royal cause, and many of them died in defending it. When the wars were over, and the cause of royalty entirely overcome, the surviving dependants of the drama made up a company out of the scattered remains of several, and in the winter of 1648, they ventured to act some plays, with as much caution and privacy as possible, at the Cock Pit.

They continued undisturbed for three or four days, but at last, as they were presenting the tragedy of the *Bloody Brother*, a party of foot soldiers beset the house, surprised them about the middle of the play, and carried them away in their habits to Hatton House, then a prison, where having detained them some time, they plundered them of their clothes, and then let them loose again.

Afterwards, in Oliver's time, they used to act privately three or four miles from town, sometimes in noblemen's houses, particularly in Holland House, Kensington, where the nobility and gentry who met (but in no great numbers) used to make up a purse for them. Alexander Goffe, the woman actor at Blackfriars, used to be the Jackall, and give notice of time and place. Sometimes during Christmas, and Bartholomew Fair, they would, with the connivance of the officer of the Guard at Whitehall, perform plays for a few days at the Red Bull; but they were often disturbed by soldiers, and committed to prison.

The actors who survived to this period, felt the greatest distress, and were obliged to draw forth the MSS. of their contemporaries, which they had in their possession; and many plays were published, which might otherwise have never seen the light.

Amidst the gloom of fanaticism which sought the entire destruction of the stage, and while the royal cause was considered as desperate, Sir William Davenant, without molestation, exhibited entertainments of declamation and music, after the manner of the ancients, at Rutland House. He began in the year 1656, and two years afterwards removed to the Cock Pit, Drury Lane, where he performed until the eve of the Restoration.

It appears from 'Jordan's Rosary of Rarities,' that even some of Shakspeare's and Ben Jonson's plays were considered dangerous by the puritans, as well as those that were occasionally written in the beginning of the civil wars, to reflect on the managers of the state; and that this was the cause of their silencing the stage at that time. In the book above alluded to, there is a smart satire, entitled, 'the Player's Petition to the Long Parliament, after being long silenced, that they might play again in 1642,' which contains the following severe attack on the parliament of the day.

'But while you reign, our low petition craves,

That we, the king's true subjects, and your slaves,
 May in our comic mirth, and tragic rage,
 Set up the theatre, and show the stage ;
 The shop of truth and fancy, where we vow,
 Not to act any thing you'll disallow ;
 We will not dare at your strange votes to
 jeer,

Or personate King Pym with his state fleer ;
 Aspiring Cataline shall be forgot,
 Bloody Sejanus, or whoe'er could plot
 Confusion 'gainst a state ; the war betwixt
 The parliament, and just Harry the Sixth,
 Shall have no thought or mention, 'cause their
 pow'r

Not only placed, but lost him in the Tow'r ;
 Nor will we parallel with least suspicion,
 Your synod, with the Spanish Inquisition ;
 Or like the grave advice of learned Pym,
 Make a *malignant*, and then *plunder him*.
 All these, and such like actions that may
 mar

Your soaring plots, or show you what you
 are,
 We shall omit, lest our inventions shake 'em—
 Why should the men be wiser than you make
 'em ?

Methinks there should not such a difference
 be,

Twixt your profession, and our quality ;
 You meet, plot, act, talk high with minds im-
 mense ;

The like with us, but only we speak sense ;
 Inferior unto yours, we can tell how
 To depose kings ; there we know more than
 you,

Although not more than what you would, so
 we

Do in our vaster privileges agree ;
 But that yours are the larger, and controuls
 Not only lives and fortunes, but men's souls,
 Declaring by an enigmatic sense,
 A privilege on each man's conscience ;
 As if the Trinity could not consent
 To save a soul, but by the parliament ;
 We make the people laugh at some strange
 show,

And as they laugh at us, they do at you ;
 Only in the contrary, we disagree,
 For you can make them cry faster than we ;
 Your tragedies more real are express'd,
 You murder men in earnest, we in jest ;
 Tho' we come short, but if you follow thus,
 Some wise men fear you will come short of
 us.

As humbly as we did begin, we pray,
 Dear Schoolmasters, you'll give us leave to
 play ;

Quickly before the king comes, for we would
 Be glad to say ye've done a little good.
 Since ye have sat, your play is almost done,
 As well as ours—would'st had ne'er begun ;
 But we shall find, e'er the last act be spent,
Enter the king, exit the parliament.

And *hey then up go we*, who by the frown
 Of guilty members, have been voted down ;
 Yet you may still remain, and sit and vote,
 And through your own beam, see your brother's
 mote ;

Until a legal trial show us how

You've us'd the king, and *hey then up go*
you ;
 So pray your humble slaves with all their
 pow'rs,
 That when they have their due, you may
 have yours.

The French Drama.

While the drama in England was suffering under the proscription of the Puritans, it began just about that period to rise into importance in France. For a long time previous it had been in an extremely low state among the French ; their tragedy was flat and languid, their comedy more barbarous than the lowest of the vulgar world now tolerate. But all at once two master spirits arose ; Corneille in tragedy, and Molière in comedy, who elevated both nearly to the pitch of perfection. The French theatre seemed to be raised and to flourish on a sudden as if by magic ; and though in a manner deserted before, was quickly supplied with actors of distinguished merit.

To this success the active patronage of the court in no small degree contributed. Richelieu, the prime minister, not only granted a peculiar protection to dramatic poets, but was himself ambitious to rank among the number. In 1635, in the midst of the various important political concerns which occupied his mighty genius, he wrote the greatest part of a play, called *La Comedie des Tuilleries*. 'While,' says Lord Chesterfield, 'he absolutely governed both his king and country, and was in a great degree the arbiter of the fate of all Europe, he was more jealous of the great reputation of Corneille than of the power of Spain ; and more flattered with being thought (what he was not) the best poet, than with being thought (what he certainly was) the greatest statesman in Europe ; and affairs stood still while he was concerting a criticism upon the *Cid*.'

Corneille.

Corneille, whom his countrymen delight to call the Shakspeare of France, was brought up to the bar, which he attended some little time ; but having no turn for business, he soon deserted it. At this time, he had given the public no specimen of his talents for poetry, nor does he appear to have been conscious of possessing any such. A little affair is said to have given occasion to his first production, the comedy of *Melite* ; and he is reported to have felt quite astonished to find himself the author of a piece, of an entirely new species, and at the prodigious success with which it was acted. After so happy an essay, he continued to produce several other comedies of the same kind ; all of them inferior indeed to the tragedies which he afterwards wrote, and infinitely so to the works of Molière, but much superior to anything which the French had hitherto seen. His *Medea*, a tragedy, came forth next

Molière.

rich met with no great success: but in 1677, he presented *The Cid*, another tragedy, which he showed the world how high his genius was capable of rising. All Europe has seen and admired *The Cid*, for it has been translated into almost all languages: but the reputation which he acquired by this play, with most of the wits of his time into a conspiracy against it. Some affected to treat it contemptuously; others wrote against it. Cardinal Richelieu himself, is said to have been one of the cabal; and though he had led a pension upon the poet, could not refrain from secret attempts against his genius. It was supposed to be under his influence, that the French Academy drew up a critique upon it, entitled, 'Sentiments of the French Academy, upon the tragi-comedy *The Cid*,' in which, however, while they censured some parts, they did not scruple to see it very highly in others. Corneille endeavoured to support the vast reputation he had gained by many admirable performances in succession, which, as Bayle observes, 'carried the French theatre to its highest pitch of glory, and assuredly much higher than the ancient one at Athens.' He notwithstanding, still to contend with the bad taste of the most fashionable wits. When he read his *Polyeucte*, one of his best comedies, before a company of these persons, where Voiture presided, it was very ill received, and Voiture afterwards told it was the opinion of his friends, that the play would not succeed.

Boileau, in a speech made to the French Academy in the beginning of 1685, does great justice to Corneille's talents. After representing the miserable state in which the French theatre then was, that it was without decency, sense, or taste, he passes to sudden reformation effected by Corneille, in who possessed at once all those extraordinary talents which form a great poet—force, judgment, and wit. Nor can any sufficiently admire the greatness of his talents, the skill he shows in the economy of subjects, his masterly way of moving passions, the dignity, and at the same time the vast variety of his characters.' Such an encomium must have the more weight if it comes from the only man in the world who has been considered as Corneille's rival; for on one, too, who had some reasons for entertaining the most grateful recollection of the author of *The Cid*. For we are told by Boileau, who had the fact from Racine himself, that when he read his first play of *Andronicus* to Corneille, he was advised by Corneille to apply himself to any other kind of writing, rather than the drama, to which his genius was not at all adapted! 'Corneille,' Boileau says, 'was incapable of low jealousy; if he spoke so to Racine, it is certain he thought so. But we know also that he transferred Lucan to Virgil; whence we conclude that the art of writing excellently in prose, and the art of judging excellently in verse and poetry, do not always meet in the same person.'

Before any regular theatre was established in Paris, many little societies made it a diversion to act plays in their own houses; and it was in one of these, known by the name of 'The Illustrious Theatre,' that Molière, the restorer, or rather father of French comedy, first engaged himself. In conformity to the example of the actors of that time, he changed his name of Pocquelin for that of Molière, which he retained ever after. What became of him during the civil wars, from 1648 to 1652, we know not; but it is probable that he was employed in composing some of those pieces which he afterwards exhibited with so much applause to the public. La Béjart, an actress of Champagne, whose daughter he afterwards married, was waiting, as well as himself, for a favourable time to display her talents. Molière was particularly kind to her; and as their interests became mutual, they formed a company together, and went to Lyons in 1653, where Molière produced his first play, called *L'Etourdi*, or the Blunderer, and appeared in the double character of author and actor. This drew almost all the spectators from another company of comedians settled in the town, some of whose company joined with Molière, and followed him to Béziers, in Languedoc, where he offered his services to the Prince of Conti, who gladly accepted them, as he had known him at college, and was among the first to predict his brilliant career upon the stage. He now received him as a friend, and not satisfied with confiding to him the management of the entertainments which he gave, he offered to make him his secretary. Molière, however, prudently declined the offer, saying, 'I am a tolerable author, but I should make a very bad secretary.' About the latter end of 1657, Molière departed with his company for Grenoble, and continued there during the carnival of 1658. After this he went and settled at Rouen, where he stayed all the summer; and having made some journeys to Paris privately, he had the good fortune to please the king's brother, who, granting him his protection and making his company his own, introduced him in that quality to the king and queen mother. Molière's company began to appear before their majesties and the whole court, in October, 1658, upon a stage erected on purpose in the hall of the Guards of the old Louvre, and were so well approved that his majesty gave orders for their permanent settlement at Paris. The hall of the Petit Bourbon was granted them to act by turns with the Italian players. In 1663, Molière obtained a pension of a thousand livres; and in 1665 his company was taken altogether into his majesty's service.

The 'Tartuffe.'

The *Tartuffe* of Molière was, on account of the ridicule which it cast on the ecclesiastical order, suppressed through the interest of that

body, after it had been acted only a few nights, while at the same time a most profane farce was permitted to have a long run. When Louis XIV. expressed to the Prince of Condé his wonder at the different fates of these two pieces, and asked the reason of it, the prince answered, 'In the farce religion only is ridiculed; but Molière, in the *Tartuffe*, has attacked even the priests.'

The vengeance of the priesthood pursued Molière even beyond his grave; and had it not been for the personal interference of Louis, his remains must have slept in unconsecrated ground. The Archbishop of Paris, yielding to his majesty's desire, permitted them to be interred at St. Joseph's, a chapel of ease to the parish church of St. Eustace.

Molière and Racine.

When Molière was at the height of his reputation, Racine, who was just then come from Languedoc, and was scarcely known in Paris, went to see him under pretence of consulting him about an ode which he had just finished. Molière expressed such a favourable opinion of the performance, that Racine ventured to show him his first tragedy, founded on the martyrdom of Theagenes and Chariclea. Molière, who had an honest consciousness of superiority, which exalted him above envy, was not sparing either of praise or of counsel. His liberality carried him still further. He knew that Racine was not in easy circumstances, and therefore lent him a hundred louis-d'ors, thinking it a sufficient recompense to have the honour of helping forward a genius which he foresaw would one day be the glory of the French stage.

Death of Molière.

The *Malade Imaginaire* of Molière is said to have proved fatal to its author, who was himself the first who performed the principal part in the piece. The imaginary sick man, it will be remembered, pretends on a certain occasion to be dead; and the story of the day was, that while in that part of the representation Molière actually expired. Among many epigrams to which this extraordinary circumstance gave rise, the following is as deserving of remembrance for its poignancy, as for the moral lesson it conveys, for death can never be a legitimate subject for mimicry.

'Roscius hic situs est tristi Moliærus in urna
Cui genus humanum ludere ludus erat:
Dum ludit mortem, mors indignata jocantem
Corripit, et minum fingere sæva negat.'

The real circumstances of Molière's death were, however, not exactly according to the popular belief. It appears, from the best accounts, that he was indisposed before the performance of the play. His wife, and Baron the actor, urged him to take some care of himself, and not to perform that night. 'And what then,' said he, 'is to become of my poor performers? I should reproach myself if I

neglected them a single day.' The exertions which he made to go through his part produced a convulsion, followed by a vomiting of blood, of suffocation from which he died in a few hours after.

Baron.

The celebrated French player, Baron, was so great a master in the art of expression that when, after a retirement of twenty-four years, he returned to the stage, at the age of sixty-eight, he was observed, in repeating the lines of Cinna,

'Soudain vous eussiez vu, par un effet contraire,'

Leurs fronts *palir* d'horreur, et *rougir* de colère;'

to turn pale and red with as sudden a transition as conformity to the verse required. Baron used to affirm that the force and play of declamation were such that tender and plaintive sounds might be transferred to gay and even comic words, and still be equally productive of tears. He was seen repeatedly to make the trial of this surprising effect on a well-known sonnet:—

'Si le roi m'avoit donné
Paris, sa grande ville,' &c.

When Racine was distributing the parts in his *Andromache*, he reserved that of Pyrrhus for Baron. After having explained the characters of several of the personages to the different actors who were to represent them, he turned towards Baron; 'As to you, sir, I have no instruction to give you, your heart will tell you more of it than any lessons of mine could explain.'

Baron, whose vanity was at least equal to his talents, said of himself, in one of his enthusiastic fits, that 'once in a century we might see a Cæsar, but that two thousand years were requisite to produce a Baron.'

Racine.

When Racine was a scholar at Port Royal he was so fond of reading Sophocles and Euripides that he committed the whole of their plays to memory, and delighted to repeat their most striking beauties. While thus studying the models of antiquity, we are told that he accidentally met with the Greek romance of 'The Loves of Theagenes and Chariclea,' on which he afterwards founded his first tragedy, and was reading it when his preceptor surprising him, took the book and threw it into the fire. Racine found means to get another copy, which underwent the same fate, but such was his fondness for it that he did not rest till he had procured a third copy. When, to provide against any repetition of the disaster, he got the whole by heart, and the taking the book to his master, said, 'You may now burn this, as you burned the others.'

Like his predecessor, Corneille, he experienced in his theatrical career all that oppo-

ion which envy and cabal are ever ready to
up against a superior genius, and one
don, a poet, whose name is not otherwise
rth remembering, was actually employed
persons of the first distinction to have a
extra ready for the theatre against the
e that Racine's should appear. After the
lication of this celebrated piece (1677) he
a resolution to quit the theatre for ever,
ough he was still in full vigour, being not
re than thirty-eight, and the only person
o was capable of consoling Paris for the
age of Corneille. He had fallen into a
rious melancholy, under the influence of
ch he looked back with repentance on all
glory he had acquired, and actually
ed a design of atoning for his supposed
rs by becoming friar. His religious di-
or, however, distrusting perhaps this ex-
rdinary zeal, advised him to moderate it,
arry, and to settle in the world. Racine
his advice, but though thus saved from
gloom of the cloister, he was not restored
the stage. He still made it a point of con-
ce to meddle no more with the profane
of play writing, nor did he consider him-
as deviating from this rule when, at the
est of Madame Maintenon, he consented
impose a tragedy on some subject taken
the Bible, to be played by her young
s, at the convent of St. Cyr. The play
h he composed on this occasion was the
er, which was first represented at St.
and afterwards at Versailles, before the
in 1689. It was followed by the *Atha-*
on a similar plan. 'It appears to me
remarkable,' says Voltaire, 'that the
r had, when brought out, universal
ss. and that two years after, *Athaliah*,
h performed by the same persons, had
' It happened quite contrary when
pieces were played at Paris, long after
ath of the author, and when prejudice
rtiality had ceased. *Athaliah*, repre-
l in 1717, was received, as it deserved to
th transport, and *Esther*, in 1721, in-
nothing but coldness, and never ap-
l again. But at that time there were
rtiers who complaisantly acknowledged
r in Madame Maintenon, and with equal
ity saw Vashti in Madame Montespan,
n in Louvois, and, above all, the persecu-
the Huguenots by this minister in the
ption of the Hebrews. Offended at
l reception of *Athaliah*, Racine was
ligusted than ever with poetry, and
at time renounced it totally.

Baron, the Father.

father of the celebrated Baron was also
dian, less memorable for his talents
r the manner of his death. Playing
of Don Diego, in *The Cid*, his sword
n his hand, as the piece required, and
a from him in indignation, he unfor-
y struck against the point of it, by
his little toe was pierced. The wound
t treated as a trifle, but a gangrene

afterwards took place, and the amputation
of the leg was declared to be necessary. Nothing,
however, could induce Baron to submit to this
operation. 'No, no,' said he, 'what would a
theatrical monarch be without a leg?' And
so preferring death to the loss of professional
fame, he calmly awaited his fate.

Actresses.

It has been remarked, that Shakspeare,
and indeed all our elder dramatists, have sel-
dom devoted that attention to the female
characters in their plays, that they have to
the males. The reason is obvious, as in their
days females never appeared on the stage,
boys and men always personating their parts;
consequently the natural grace, melting voice,
and soothing looks of female delicacy, so essen-
tial to the character, were lost.

It was not until after the Restoration, that
females were first introduced on the stage.
To this great improvement, as well as for that
of moving scenes, we are indebted to Sir
William Davenant. Previous to his time, all
the female characters were personated by
men; and we have an account of several
performers, who particularly distinguished
themselves in this line of acting, pre-
vious to the suppression of the theatre,
during the puritanical authority of the Com-
monwealth. Among the men most remark-
able for their effeminate appearance, was
Stephen Hammerton, who played at Black-
friars, in the age immediately succeeding
Shakspeare, and who is said to have been 'a
most noted and beautiful woman actor.' Two
men of the names of Hart and Clun, also
played women's characters; Hart played the
Duchess in *The Cardinal*; and one Burt also
distinguished himself as Clarinda in *Love's
Cruelty*. Alexander Goffe, the Jackall of the
poor players, during the suppression, was also
a woman actor.

Female actors were first introduced by Sir
William Davenant, at his new theatre in
Lincoln's Inn Fields, which was opened in the
Spring of 1662, with the *Siege of Rhodes*, Mrs.
Saunderson, the first woman who appeared on
an English stage, playing the character of
Jane. This, however, was thought a species
of innovation, requiring some apology; ac-
cordingly we find a poet of those days, and
who had written a prologue to *Othello*, thus
noticing the absurdity of men sustaining female
characters:

'Our women are defective, and so sized,
You'd think they were some of the guard
disguised;
For to speak truth, men act, that are be-
tween
Forty and fifty, wenches of fifteen;
With brow so large, and nerve so uncom-
pliant,
When you call *Desdemona*, enters *giant*.'

A few years previous, this absurd custom so
far prevailed over common sense, that Tom
Nash, in his 'Pierce Penniless', praises the
English stage for not having, as they had

abroad, women actors or courtezans, as he calls them; and even when women were introduced on the stage, apologies were made for the *indecorum* of this novel usage. It is even probable, that this happy reform in the stage originated in mere necessity, rather than from choice; for the boys who had been trained to act female characters before the revolution, had, during the suspension of the theatres, grown too masculine to resume their tender office at the Restoration, and, as the poet we have already quoted, observes,

'Doubting we never should play agen,
We have played all our women into men.'

No sooner, however, were females introduced on the stage, than they immediately became too attractive for the practice to be discontinued; and as an old writer on the subject, speaking of the theatres of Drury Lane and Lincoln's Inn Fields, says, 'We have seen at both houses excellent actresses, justly famed as well for beauty as perfect good action.' Nay, so popular did female performers become, that some plays were represented entirely by women, as they had previously been by men; in particular, the *Parson's Wedding*, a comedy by Killigrew, which, on its revival, was wholly performed by females, although there were seven male and six female characters in the piece, exclusive of servants.

La Motte.

The first dramatic attempt of La Motte's was a comedy, which miscarried. He felt the disgrace so acutely, that in the excess of his mortification, he threw himself into the celebrated monastery of La Trappe; but after a few months, finding himself unable to comply with the austerities of the order, he returned to the world and produced some operas, which had considerable success. Encouraged by this reception, he took a bolder flight, and published the tragedy of *The Maccabees* concealing his name. The critics found a great deal of merit in it while this concealment lasted; and some went so far as to conceive it to be a posthumous work of Racine; but as soon as La Motte discovered himself to be the real author, such is the disposition to decry living merit, that all these praises were withdrawn, and the tragedy, which in fact possessed no great merit, disappeared from the stage. La Motte, notwithstanding, continued to write and produce several other pieces, both tragic and comic, only one of which, however, *Ines de Castro*, obtained a permanent reputation. Although one of the most inoffensive men in the world, he encountered a great deal of malevolent opposition; but by the good humour with which he bore all attacks, he acquired almost as much fame as by the works which provoked them. He was one day in a coffee house, in the midst of a swarm of literary drones, who were abusing one of his pieces, without knowing

that the author was present. He heard them for a long time in silence, and then called out to a friend who accompanied him, 'Let us go and yawn at the fiftieth representation of this unfortunate piece.' At another time, when told of the numerous criticisms made on his tragedy of *Ines*, 'It is true,' said he, 'it has been much criticised, but with tears.' Of the success of others, no man could be less envious than La Motte; he encouraged rising talents with the most unfeigned zeal; and whenever he pointed out a fault, it was not to enjoy the easy glory of mortifying another's vanity; it was with the feeling to which most critics are strangers, and which common readers rarely entertain, that of being really concerned to find a blot. So high did his character in this respect stand, that it was said of him, that 'justice and justness,' was his motto. Of both these qualities he exhibited a distinguished proof, when he gave, as Censor, his approbation to Voltaire's first tragedy; for he did not hesitate to add to it, 'this work gives promise of a worthy successor on the stage to Corneille and Racine.'

First Drury Lane Play Bill.

The following is a copy of the first play bill which announced the opening of the first theatre that was erected in Drury Lane. It is curious, not only in showing the increase in the prices of admission since that period, but the different times at which dramatic representations commenced. It should be observed, that no farces were performed in those days.

By his Majesty's Company of Comedians.

At the NEW THEATRE, in DRURY LANE,
THIS DAY, being THURSDAY, APRIL 8th, 1662,
will be acted a Comedy, called

THE HUMOVROVS LIEVTENANT.

The King . . .	Mr. Wintersel.
Demetrius . . .	Mr. Hart
Seleivus . . .	Mr. Bvrt.
Leontive . . .	Major Mahon.
Lieutenant . . .	Mr. Clyn.
Celia . . .	Mrs. Marshall.

The Play will begin at three o'clock exactly
Boxes, 4s.—Pit, 2s. 6d.—Middle Gallery, 1s. 6d.
Upper Gallery, 1s.

William Peer.

It is no matter, say the moralists, whether you act a prince or a beggar; the business is to do your part well. Mr. William Peer, an actor at the time of the Restoration, distinguished himself particularly in two characters, in which no man, perhaps, ever excelled him. One of them was the speaker of the prologue in the play, which is contrived in the tragedy of *Hamlet* to awaken the consciences of guilty princes. Mr. Peer spoke that preface to the play with such air, as represented that he was only imitating an actor; so that the others on the stage

ared really great persons, and not representatives in comparison with him. This a nicety that none but the most subtle ear could conceive. In the words,

'For us, and for our tragedy,
Here, stooping to your clemency,
We beg your hearing patiently ;'

is nothing of the least importance added, and yet the speaking of them secured Peer an extraordinary reputation. Another character in which Peer was present, was the Apothecary in *Caius Marius*, is called by Otway ; but *Romeo and Juliet*, as originally in Shakspeare. It will be necessary to recite more out of the play he spoke, to have a right conception of what Peer did in it. Marius, weary of life, resolves means to get rid of it, after this manner :

do remember an Apothecary
that dwelt about this rendezvous of death ;
sage, and very rueful, were his looks,
his misery had worn him to the bones.'

When this spectre of poverty appears,
he addresses him thus :

'Thou art very poor ;
Thou mayest do anything ; here's fifty
pennies,
I'll give thee a draught of what will soonest
relieve thee
I'll teach from all his cares.'

When the Apothecary objects that it is unlawful,
Marius urges,

'Thou so base and full of wretchedness,
Darest thou ear'st to die ? Famine is in thy
veins ;

'And oppression stare in thy eyes :
The beggar and the beggary hang on thy back ;
The world is not thy mind, nor the world's
will ;

'The world affords no law to make thee
rich,
Be not poor, but break it, and take
thine.'

Without these quotations, the reader could not have a just idea of the visage and manner of Peer assumed, when, in the most probable true imaginable, he consents ; and drinking the poison like a man reduced to nothing of himself, if he did not hand it, Marius,

'Poverty, but not my will, consents,
I'll drink it off ; the work is
done.'

It is a singular circumstance, that Peer's success in life should depend upon five lines better than any man else in the world ; but though his eminence lay in having a compass, the governors of the law in it certain knowledge of profligacy induced them to enlarge his faction, by the post of property-man. Peer has always ready in a place for him behind the prompter, all the scenes and implements as are necessary in the play, and it is his business never to wait for the scene, poison, false money, thunder-

bolts, daggers, scrolls of parchment, wine, pomatums, truncheons, and wooden legs, ready at the call of the prompter. The addition of this officer, so important to the conduct of the whole affair of the stage, made Peer's subsistence very comfortable ; but it frequently happens that men lose their virtue in prosperity, who were shining characters in adversity. Good fortune, indeed, had no effect upon the mind, but very much upon the body of Peer ; for in the seventieth year of his age, he grew corpulent, which rendered his figure unfit for the utterance of the five lines before mentioned. He had now unfortunately lost the wan distress necessary for the countenance of the Apothecary, and was too jolly to speak the prologue with proper humility. He appears to have taken this calamity to heart. It contributed not a little to the shortening his days ; and as there is no state of real happiness in this life, Mr. Peer was undone by success, and lost all by arriving at what is the end of all other men's pursuits—his case.

Oratorios.

The Oratorio, a species of entertainment which originated in Italy, was a sacred drama divided into scenes, and usually in three acts or parts, in imitation of theatrical pieces. It, however, differed from them in this, that the oratorios were always written on sacred subjects, taken from Scripture, or church history, and set to grave and solemn music, in order to be performed, vocally and instrumentally, in a church, or some other fit place, during Lent. The first exhibition truly dramatic that was performed in Italy, according to Apostolo Zeno, was a spiritual comedy at Padua, in 1243. But though every nation in Europe seems, in the first attempt at dramatic exhibitions, to have had recourse to religious subjects, and an oratorio, or sacred drama, is but a mystery or morality in music, yet those that were written before the seventeenth century seem never to have been entirely sung, but chiefly declaimed, with incidental airs and choruses. It was, however, by small degrees, that entire musical mysteries had admission into the church, or were improved into oratorios. All the Italian writers on the subject, agree that these sacred musical dramas had their beginning in the time of San Filippo Neri, who was born in 1515, and founded the congregation of the Priests of the Oratory at Rome, in 1540. The Italian word *Oratorio* signifies a small chapel, or particular part of a house or church, where there is an altar. The spaces between the arches of Romish churches are called *Oratorii*, or in English chapels. The congregation of the Oratory established at Rome, and in some cities of Italy, by St. Phil. Neri, about 1558, originated from the conferences which this pious ecclesiastic held in his own chapel at Rome. The great number of persons who attended these meetings, obliged St. Phil. to request the administrators of the church of

San Girolame della Carita, to grant permission to hold these assemblies there, which was granted. In 1574, they were transferred to the church of the Florentines; and, in 1583, to Santa Maria della Vallicella. By degrees, this establishment spread itself all over Italy, where it has still many houses. It appears that these fathers, in whatever city of Italy they had an establishment, entertained their congregations with good music. During the service, and after sermon, it was usual for them, amongst other pious exercises, in order to draw youth to church, and keep them from secular amusements, to have hymns, psalms, and other spiritual *laudi*, or songs, sung either in chorus, or by a single favourite voice, divided into two parts, the one performed before the sermon, the other after it.

‘Gorboduc.’

The tragedy of *Gorboduc*, written many years before Shakspeare, was a joint production of Lord Buckhurst and Thomas Norton, a fellow-labourer of Sternhold and Hopkins. The first three acts were by Norton, the last two by his lordship. This tragedy was acted before the queen at Whitehall, by the gentlemen of the Inner Temple, 1561. It originally had the title of *Ferre and Porrex*; was printed incorrectly and surreptitiously in 1565; more completely in 1570, by the title of *Gorboduc*. It was republished by Dodsley in 1736, with a preface by Mr. Spence, by the procurement of Mr. Pope, ‘who wondered that the propriety and the natural ease of it had not been better imitated by the dramatic authors of the succeeding age.’ It is to be found at the head of the second volume of the ‘Collection of Old Plays,’ published by Dodsley. Sir Philip Sydney, in his ‘Apologie for Poetrie,’ gives this lofty character of it: ‘It is full of stately speeches, and well-sounding phrases, clyming in the height of Seneca his style, and as full of notable moralitie, which it doth most delightfully teach, and so obtayne the very end of poesie.’

Although so much praised, *Gorboduc* was never popular, ‘owing,’ says Dr. Anderson, ‘to the uninteresting nature of the plot, the tedious length of the speeches, the want of a discrimination of character, and almost a total absence of pathetic incidents.’

Shakspeare.

‘When learning’s triumph o’er her barbarous foes

First rear’d the stage, immortal Shakspeare rose :

Each change of many-colour’d life he drew,
Exhausted worlds, and then imagin’d new;
Existence saw him spurn her bounded reign,
And panting time toil’d after him in vain,
His powerful strokes presiding truth impress’d,

And unresisted passion storm’d the breast.’

DR. JOHNSON.

To William Shakspeare, the poet of nature, the British stage, and the whole republic of letters, is indebted for the brightest effusions of genius that the world has ever produced. Of all the dramatists that have preceded or followed this immortal bard, no one has given so faithful a mirror of manners and of life. The characters in his plays are not modified by the customs of particular places, unpractised by the rest of the world; they are not influenced by the peculiarities of studies, or professions, which can operate upon small numbers, or by the accidents of transient fashions or temporary opinions; they are the genuine progeny of common humanity, such as the world will always supply, and observation will always find. His persons act and speak by the influence of those general passions and principles by which all minds are agitated, and the whole system of life is continued in motion. In the writings of other dramatists, a character is too often an individual; in those of Shakspeare, it is commonly a species.

Such are the characteristics which distinguish Shakspeare from all other poets, and which justly entitle him to that adoration with which his country has enshrined his memory.

Those who are fond of tracing great events to little causes, see the origin of Shakspeare’s glory in his being compelled to quit the country, for having first assisted in robbing Sir Thomas Lucy’s Park, and afterwards lampooning him in a ballad. But Shakspeare’s genius was not born to blush unseen, and sooner or later must have burst every trammel with which it was fettered.

When Shakspeare fled to London, the natural bent of his wit and humour threw him among the players; he was a stranger, and ignorant of the art, and he was glad to enter the company in a very subordinate situation, nor did his performance as an actor recommend him to any distinguished notice.

The part of an actor, however, neither engaged nor deserved the attention of Shakspeare, who soon turned the advantage which that situation afforded him to a higher and nobler use. Having made himself acquainted with the mechanical economy of the theatre, his native genius supplied the rest. Thus Shakspeare set out with little advantage, no education, no advice or assistance from persons more learned than himself, and entirely destitute of patronage.

Shakspeare, however, was not long without friends, for to be the acknowledged patron of a man of his genius, was to receive and confer an honour. The Earl of Southampton distinguished himself by his generosity to the immortal bard; and even Queen Elizabeth expressed herself so much pleased with the delightful character he had drawn of Sir John Falstaff, in the two parts of *Henry the Fourth*, that she commanded the author to continue it for one play more, and to show the knight in love, which he executed inimitably in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

Shakspeare is supposed to have written his first play, *Titus Andronicus*, in 1589, when was twenty-five years of age; his last, *Twelfth Night*, is believed to have been written in 1614. Forty-three plays have been attributed to Shakspeare, but seven of these have been rejected as not written by him. Of thirty-six of which he is in the undisputed possession, not fewer than twenty-two are still favourites on the stage. Thus, as Gregory says, 'his dramas, after a lapse of two centuries, are still gazed at with undiminished ardour by the populace, are still read with animation by the scholar. They interest the old and the young, the gallery and the critic, the people and the critic. At their representation, the appetite is never palled; excitement never disappointed. The changes of fashion have not cast him into the shade; variations of language have not rendered him obsolete.'

In 1603, Shakspeare, in conjunction with George, Heminge, Fletcher, Condell, and others, obtained a licence from King James the first, authorizing them to act plays, not only at their usual house, the Globe on the river side, but in any other part of the kingdom, during his majesty's pleasure. Now the drama seemed to rise to the height of its glory and reputation—dramatic authors multiplied,—there were several very eminent ones, and every year produced a number of plays. Shakspeare continued to be a principal manager of the playhouse; until he had acquired such a fortune as satisfied his tastes and wishes in life, he quitted the stage, and passed the remainder of his life in honourable ease at his native town of Stratford-on-Avon, where he lived until the month of April, 1616, when he paid the debt of nature, and 'shuffled off this mortal coil' in the 53rd year of his age. It is a remarkable circumstance, that Cervantes died at the same day as Shakspeare.

Beaumont and Fletcher.

Bayley relates that Beaumont and Fletcher met once at a tavern, in order to consult upon the rude draught of a tragedy, Fletcher asked to kill the king, and that his words overheard by a waiter, they were seized, and charged with high treason; but when it was discovered that the plot was only against the late king, the affair ended in mirth.

The connexion between Beaumont and Fletcher was very intimate, and it would appear from one time very economical. Aubrey says, that 'there was a wonderful intimacy of fancy between Mr. Francis Beaumont and Mr. John Fletcher, which caused a great deal of friendship between them. I read Dr. John Earle, since Bishop of Exeter, who knew them, that his business in the law was to correct the superfluities of Mr. Fletcher's wit. They lived together on the Bankside, not far from the Strand; both bachelors, had one house between them, which they

did so admire; the same cloaths, cloaks, &c. between them.'

Dryden tells us, that Beaumont and Fletcher's plays in his time, were the most pleasant and frequent entertainments, two of them being acted through the year, for one of Shakspeare's or Jonson's; and the reason he assigns is, because there is a certain gaiety in their comedies, and a pathos in their most serious plays, which suit generally with all men's humour. The case, however, is now reversed, for Beaumont and Fletcher's are not acted above once for fifty times that the plays of Shakspeare are represented.

Congreve.

The comedy of the *Old Batchelor*, was Congreve's first introduction to the stage. Dryden, to whom the author was recommended by Southern, was pleased to say of it, 'that he never saw such a first play in his life, and that it would be a pity to have it miscarry for a few things which proceeded not from the author's want of genius or art, but from his not being acquainted with the stage and the town.' Dryden revised and corrected it, and it was acted in 1693. The prologue intended to be spoken, was written by Lord Falkland; the play was admirably performed, and received with such general applause, that Congreve was thenceforth considered as the prop of the declining stage, and as the rising genius in dramatic poetry. It was this play, and the very singular success which attended it upon the stage, and after it came from the press, which recommended its author to the patronage of Lord Halifax, who being desirous to place so eminent a wit in a state of ease and tranquillity, made him immediately one of the commissioners for licencing hackney-coaches; which was soon followed by a place in the Pipe Office, the office of a commissioner of wine licences, and the secretaryship of Jamaica, the whole yielding upwards of £1200 per annum.

Voltaire says of Congreve, 'He raised the glory of comedy to a greater height than any English writer before or since his time. He wrote only a few plays, but they are excellent in their kind. He was infirm,' he adds, 'and came to the verge of life, when I knew him. Mr. Congreve had one defect, which was, his entertaining too mean an idea of his first profession, that of a writer, though it was to this that he owed his fame and fortune. He spoke of his works as of trifles that were beneath him, and hinted to me in our first conversation, that I should visit him upon no other footing than that of a gentleman who led a life of plainness and simplicity. I answered that had he been so unfortunate as to be a mere gentleman, I should never have come to see him, and I was very much disgusted at so unseasonable a piece of vanity.' Dennis, speaking of Congreve's resolution not to write plays after Jeremy Collier's attack, says, 'he quitted the stage early, and comedy left it with him.'

Edward Alleyn.

Alleyn, celebrated as the founder of Dulwich College, was one of the original actors in Shakspeare's plays, and usually acted the capital parts. He was in high favour with the town, and greatly applauded by the best judges. Mr. Aubrey mentions a tradition, that Mr. Alleyn, when playing a demon, was in the midst of the play surprised by an apparition of the devil, which so worked upon his fancy, that he made a vow to devote the whole fortune he had acquired by the stage, to the foundation of a charitable establishment. Whatever truth there may be in this story, it is certain, that in 1614 he commenced erecting that college to which the whole of his fortune was devoted. The building, gardens, &c. cost about ten thousand pounds, and he endowed it besides with a clear revenue of eight hundred pounds per annum.

It may appear surprising, how a person of Mr. Alleyn's profession should be able to display such munificence. But it must be observed, that he had some paternal fortune, which, though small, probably laid the foundation of his subsequent affluence. He was, besides, not only an actor, but master of a playhouse built at his own expense, by which he is said to have amassed considerable wealth. This was the Fortune playhouse, near White Cross Street, by Moorfields. There is a tradition in the neighbourhood of this place, that in digging the foundation of this house, there was found a considerable treasure, so that it is probable that the whole or the greater part of it might fall to Mr. Alleyn. He was also keeper of the king's wild beasts, or master of the royal bear garden, which was frequented by vast crowds of spectators; and the profits arising from those sports, which are said to have amounted to £500 per annum, contributed to swell the amount of his fortune.

Alleyn was himself master of this college; so that, to make use of the words of Mr. Heywood, one of his contemporaries, 'He was so mingled with humility and charity, that he became his own pensioner, humbly submitting himself to that proportion of diet and clothes which he had bestowed upon others.' We have no reason to think that he ever repented of this distribution of his substance, but on the contrary, that he was entirely satisfied, as appears from the following memorial in his own writing, found among his papers; 'May 26, 1620. My wife and I acknowledged the fine at the Common Pleas Bar, of all our lands to the college; blessed be God that he has given us life to do it.'

The Stage at the Restoration.

In the year 1659, when General Monk was marching towards London, Mr. Rhodes, a bookseller, who had formerly been wardrobe-keeper at Blackfriars, fitted up the Cock Pit in Drury Lane. The actors he procured were chiefly new to the stage; and two of them, Betterton and Kynaston, had been his ap-

prentices. About the same time, the few performers who had belonged to the old companies, assembled and began to act at the Red Bull, in St. John's Street. Sir William Davenant, before the civil war had broke out, had been favoured with a patent by Charles I.; and therefore his claim to a new one was warranted as well by his former possession, as by his services and sufferings in the royal cause. The other candidate was Thomas Killigrew, Esq., a person who had rendered himself acceptable to his sovereign, as much by his vices and follies, as by his wit, or attachment to him in his distress.

Rhodes's company soon afterwards joined Sir William Davenant, and the remains of the old companies were received by Mr. Killigrew and all of them sworn by the Lord Chamberlain as servants of the crown, the former being styled the Duke of York's company, and the latter, that of the king.

The king's company, after their removal from the Red Bull, performed in a new-built house, situated in Gibbon's Tennis Court near Clare Market; but this theatre, not being well adapted for the use to which it was appropriated, they were obliged to erect a more convenient one in Drury Lane, which was finished and opened on the 8th of April, 1662, with Beaumont and Fletcher's comedy of the *Humorous Lieutenant*, which was acted twelve nights successively.

During this time the company belonging to the Duke of York had removed from the Cock Pit to a new theatre built in Lincoln's Inn Fields, which was opened in the spring of 1662.

The two companies being now established at Drury Lane and Lincoln's Inn Fields, each began to exert their endeavours to gain the favour of the town; and, if any dependence can be placed on the judgment of those who then frequented plays, there were more excellent performers in each company than have ever been seen together at any time since that period. Amongst the actresses of the king's company at this time was the celebrated Nell Gwyn, whose excellent talents procured her an engagement at Drury Lane Theatre, where King Charles first saw her. She had, before that time, been accustomed to go from tavern to tavern.

The public patronage sufficiently recompensed the assiduity of the performers, when their success was interrupted by the plague in 1665, and the fire of 1666, which put a stop to the further progress of stage performances for eighteen months.

Expression.

Hylas, the scholar of Pylades, and already sufficiently advanced in his art to rival his master, one day played in a piece, of which the last words were, *The Great Agamemnon*. Hylas, to express the idea of greatness, stretched out his whole body, as if he meant to indicate the measure of a very great man. Pylades, placed in the middle of the audience,

not contain himself, but cried aloud, represent *length*, not *grandeur*.' The , excited by this critique, insisted that s should get upon the stage, and act ie part *himself*. Pylades obeyed; and ie came to the passage in question, he nted Agamemnon as pensive; since , in his opinion, was so characteristic eat king as *thought* for all.

Elkanah Settle.

nah Settle, in the latter part of his life, reduced as to attend a booth in Barrow Fair, the keepers of which gave him y for writing drolls. He also was to appear in his old age as a performer e wretched theatrical exhibitions; and ree called *St. George of England*, dragon, enclosed in a case of green of his own invention. To this circum- Dr. Young refers in the following lines, istle to Mr. Pope:—

Elkanah! all other changes past,
ed in Smithfield dragons hiss'd at last;
eams of fire to make the butchers gape,
and his manners suited to his shape,

end, he obtained admission into the house, where he died.

Introduction of Plays into Germany.

author of *L'Histoire du Concile de ce* gives the glory of introducing plays many to the English. He says that ish fathers assembled at that council, eturn of the emperor to Constance, ence he had been absent for some order to express their joy on that , caused a sacred comedy to be acted be- n Sunday, January 31, 1417, the sub- hich were, the Nativity of our Lord, vd of the Eastern Magi, and the f Herod. The Germans, therefore, onseur l'Enfant, are obliged to the for the invention of these sort of spec- known to them for that time.

Stage after the Plague.

theatres in Drury Lane and Lin- Field opened at Christmas, 1666, time were successful; but after the f the several performers was wor- d their stock of plays had been ret- il they became familiar, the duke's , excellent as they were allowed to their inferiority by the slender they were able to draw together. ulation induced Sir William Dave- y the effects of a new theatre, built ter magnificence than that in Lin- Fields, and he chose Dorset Gar- bably where the old playhouse in

Salisbury Court stood, as a proper place for the purpose; but before this theatre was finished he died, on which the management of his property devolved on Lady Davenant, Mr. Betterton, and Mr. Harris, assisted by Charles Davenant, the politician and lawyer. This new house was opened in November, 1671, notwithstanding the opposition made to it by the City of London; but the opinion of the public still inclining to the king's company, Mr. Davenant had recourse to a new species of entertainment; he increased the splendour of his scenery, and introduced music, singing, and dancing into some of the pieces. Dramatic operas, with expensive decorations, soon came into fashion, and enabled the duke's company to obtain an advantage over their competitors.

In January, 1671-2, the playhouse of Drury Lane took fire, and was entirely demolished. The violence of the conflagration was so great, that nearly sixty adjoining houses were burnt or blown up; where the company acted from the time of its being burnt down, to its rebuilding, we are unable to discover, although there is little doubt that they occupied some theatre which then remained unused.

The proprietors of the old house resolved to build their theatre with such improvements as might be suggested, and for that purpose employed Sir Christopher Wren to draw the design and superintend its execution. The plan which he produced, was such as was well calculated for the advantage of the performers and spectators; but the several alterations afterwards made in it, defeated the intention of the architect, and spoiled the building.

The new theatre being finished, was opened March 26, 1674. On this occasion, a prologue and epilogue were delivered, both written by Mr. Dryden, in which the plainness and want of ornament in the house, compared with that in Dorset Gardens, were particularly mentioned.

To stop the process of the public taste for scenery and decorations, and to divert it to themselves, the king's company endeavoured to ridicule the performances which were so much followed; and for this purpose they employed Thomas Duffet to parody the *Tempest*, *Macbeth*, and *Psyche*; these efforts were, however, ineffectual, and the victory of sound and show, over sense and reason, was as complete in the theatre at this period, as it has often been since. The king's theatre languished; and the great expenses at the other, diminished their gains to such a degree, that after a few years, the leaders in each discovered that it would be to their mutual advantage to unite their interests together, and open but one house; this union was recommended by the king. The junction took place in 1682, on which event the duke's company quitted Dorset Gardens, and removed to Drury Lane.

The advantages anticipated from this union, do not appear to have followed it, as the profits to the proprietors and performers seem not to have been increased. On the 30th of August, 1687, Mr. Charles Davenant assigned his patent to Alexander Davenant, Esq., who,

on the 24th of March, 1690, sold his interest therein to Christopher Rich, a lawyer. This gentleman soon contrived to engross the whole power into his own hands, and by his mismanagement alienated the affections of the principal performers from him, and by wanton oppressions, provoked them to attempt their deliverance from his tyranny. An association of the actors, with Betterton at their head, was formed, and they soon obtained a licence to act in a separate theatre for themselves. A subscription was set on foot for building a new theatre within the walls of the tennis-court, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, which was opened on the 30th of April, 1695, with the new comedy of *Love for Love*, which was acted with extraordinary success during the remainder of the season. The new adventurers, however, met with an opposition from an unexpected quarter; a number of the inhabitants of Lincoln's Inn Fields complained of being incommoded by the concourse of coaches which the playhouse drew together; a lawsuit followed, which terminated in permitting the company to act until their removal to the Haymarket.

The success of the new house was not of long continuance; and the manager of the old one had not only permitted the best plays to be mangled by the most despicable performers, but by the introduction of tumblers and buffoons, and other extravagances brought the stage into the lowest degree of contempt.

Jeremy Collier.

In the celebrated controversy with the stage, Jeremy Collier exerted himself to extraordinary advantage, and showed that a clergyman might have wit, as well as learning and reason, on his side. It is remarkable that his labours were attended with success, and actually produced repentance and amendment, for it is allowed upon all hands, that the decorum which has for the most part been observed by the latter writers of dramatic poetry, is entirely owing to the animadversions of Collier. What Dryden said upon this occasion in his preface to his Fables, does much credit to his candour and good sense. 'I shall say the less of Mr. Collier, because in many things he has taxed me justly, and I have pleaded guilty to all thoughts and expressions of mine, which can be truly arraigned of obscenity, profaneness, or immorality, and retract them. If he be my enemy, let him triumph; if he be my friend, as I have given him no personal occasion to be otherwise, he will be glad of my repentance. It becomes me not to draw my pen in defence of a bad cause, when I have so often drawn it for a good one.'

If Congreve and Vanbrugh had taken the same method with Dryden, and made an ingenuous confession of their faults, they would have retired with a better grace than they did: for it is certain that with all the wit they have shown in their respective vindications, they make but a very indifferent figure.

'Congreve and Vanbrugh,' says Dr. Johnson, 'attempted answers. Congreve, a very young man, elated with success, and impatient of censure, assumed an air of confidence and security. His chief artifice of controversy, is to retort upon his adversary his own words; he is very angry, and hoping to conquer Collier with his own weapons, allows himself in the use of every term of contumely and contempt; but he has the sword without the arm of Scanderbeg; he has his antagonist's coarseness, but not his strength. Collier replied, for contest was his delight, he was not to be frightened from his purpose nor his prey. The cause of Congreve was not tenable; whatever glosses he might use for the defence or palliation of single passages, the general tenor and tendency of his plays must always be condemned. It is acknowledged with universal conviction, that the perusal of his works will make no man better; and that their ultimate effect is to represent pleasure in alliance with vice, and to relax those obligations by which life ought to be regulated. The stage found other advocates, and the dispute was protracted through ten years; but at last comedy grew more modest, and Collier lived to see the reward of his labours in the reformation of the theatre.'

Nat. Lee.

Cibber says, that Lee 'was so pathetic a reader of his own scenes, that I have been formed by an actor who was present, that while Lee was reading to Major Mohun at rehearsal, Mohun, in the warmth of his admiration, threw down his part, and said, "Unless I were able to play as well as you read it, to what purpose should I undertake it. And yet (continued Cibber) this very author whose elocution raised such admiration in capital an actor, when he attempted to be actor himself, soon quitted the stage, in honest despair of ever making any profitable figure there.' The part which Lee attempted and failed in, was Duncan, in Sir William Davenant's alteration of *Macbeth*.

'The Rehearsal.'

The character of Bayes, we are told in the Key printed with that satirical performance in 1735, was originally intended for Sir Robert Howard, under the name of Bilboa; but stop being put to the representation by his breaking out of the plague in 1665, it was not by for several years, and not exhibited upon the stage until December 7, 1671. During this interval, Dryden being advanced to the laurelship, the noble author changed the name of his poet from Bilboa to Bayes, and made great alterations in his play, in order to rid several performances which had appeared since the first writing of it, and particularly some of Dryden's. The latter affected to despise the satire, as appears from his dedication of the translation of Juvenal and Persius.

speaking of the many lampoons and that had been written against him, he answered not *The Rehearsal*, because the author sat to himself when he drew the picture, and was the very Bayes himself; because also I knew that the performers were more concerned than I was in the satire; and lastly, because Mr. Smith, Johnson, the main pillars of it, were in a languishing gentleness in their connection, that I could liken them to nothing of my own relations, those noble characters of wit and pleasure about town.' In answer, however, as he affected to be, he failed to take a full revenge, under the name of Zinri, in his *Absalom and Achish*.

Duke of Buckingham.

In the first of Dryden's plays there was this, which the actress endeavoured to speak in a moving and affecting tone as she

and is great, because it is so small; she paused, and looked very distressed. The Duke of Buckingham, who was in one of the boxes, rose immediately from his seat, and in a loud ridiculing tone of voice, 'The effect would be greater were it none at all; it produced such an effect upon the audience, that they were not very well pleased with that they hissed the poor woman off the stage; she would never bear her appearance in her part, and as this was the second night of the play, it made Dryden lose his night.'

Sir Thomas Lofty.

In the latter part of Lord Melcombe's life, he consulted Mr. Bentley, and took much pleasure in bringing forward *The Wishes*, in which he was supposed to have had a large share. While it was in rehearsal, all the performers to his seat at night, and had it acted in the garden. One of them, who was one of the time of his peculiarities of his lordship; and in the eighth night him on the stage, under the name of Thomas Lofty, in *The Patron*.

'Don Carlos.'

Inferred from a letter of Mr. Booth's, to Mr. L., that Otway's *Don Carlos*, succeeded much better than either *Venice Preserved* or *The Orphan*, and was infinitely liked and followed for many days. It was asserted, that it was played for many nights together; but this report, as Dr. Johnson serves, may reasonably be doubted, the continuance of one play upon the stage is a very wide deviation from the practice of the time, when the ardour for theatrical amusements was not yet diffused among the whole people, and the audience

consisting of nearly the same persons, could be drawn together only by variety. This seems plausible; and Downes, in his '*Roscus Anglicanus*,' informs us that it was only acted ten succeeding days; but adds, it got more money than any preceding tragedy, a circumstance alluded to by Rochester, in the '*Seasons of the Poets*.'

'Tom Otway came next, Tom Shadwell's dear Zany,

And swears for heroics, he writes best of any; Don Carlos his pockets so amply had fill'd,' &c.

'The Suspicious Husband.'

It is pretty generally known that George the First entertained a suspicion of the fidelity of his queen, and that he supposed the object of her affections was Count Koningsmark. So strongly did this opinion work on the monarch's mind, that he doomed her to be confined for life in a castle of his own in Hanover. The reason which he gave for his suspicion was, that having occasion to enter her majesty's closet very late one night, he found her asleep on the sofa, and a man's hat (which he knew to belong to Count Koningsmark) lying by her; and as he thought the circumstance to amount to a full proof of her guilt, he took the barbarous resolution of confining her in the castle where she died.

Some time after this, Dr. Hoadly reflecting on the above circumstance, worked up the comedy of the *Suspicious Husband*; the principal plot of which is the causeless jealousy of Mr. Strickland, which the author artfully confirms, by introducing Ranger's hat in Mrs. Strickland's chamber, which being found by Mr. Strickland, confirms his suspicion, and makes him resolve to part with his lady. This play the doctor dedicated to King George the Second, who was so highly pleased with it, that he ordered a private gratification of one thousand guineas, and some other emoluments, to the author; was present at the first representation, and was so charmed with Mr. Garrick's performance of Ranger, that he honoured the house with his presence for several nights during the run of the play.

George the First.

King George the First was remarkably fond of seeing the play of Henry VIII. One night being very attentive to that part of the play where Henry the Eighth commands his minister, Wolsey, to write circular letters of indemnity to every county where the payment of certain heavy taxes had been disputed, and remarking the manner in which the minister artfully communicated these commands to his secretary, Cromwell, whispering thus—

'A word with you.
Let there be letters writ to every shire
Of the king's grace and pardon; the griev'd
Commons

Hardly conceive of me. Let it be noised,
'That thro' *our intercession* this revokement
And pardon comes ;'

the king could not help smiling at the craft of the minister, in filching from his master the merit of the good action, though he himself had been the author of the evil complained of ; and turning to the prince, who then stood near him (the play being acted at Hampton Court), said to him, 'You see, George, what you have one day to expect ; an English minister will be an English minister in every age and in every reign.'

Duchess of Bolton.

Lavinia Fenton (afterwards Duchess of Bolton) was tempted by Rich from the Haymarket to Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the year 1728, by a salary of *fifteen shillings* per week ; on the success of *The Beggar's Opera*, to secure this valuable actress, he raised it to *thirty shillings* ! and such was the rage of the town respecting her, that she was obliged to be guarded home every night by a considerable party of her confidential friends, to prevent her being run away with.

Danger of Effort in Singing.

Madame Le Brun was a singer of great talents, but her voice was not interesting ; she gave little pleasure to persons accustomed to good singing. She had been constantly imitating the tone and difficulty of *instruments* ; and her chief labour and ambition was to *surprise* ; concluding that wonder, however excited, must needs include pleasure. Travelling with her husband, an excellent performer on the hautbois, she listened to nothing else ; and copied the note of his instrument so exactly, that when he accompanied her in divisions of thirds and sixths, it was impossible to discover who was uppermost. But efforts of this sort are dangerous as well as disagreeable. Lucea Fabres, at the age of twenty-four, *lost his life* by the bursting of a bloodvessel, in a violent effort to reach a note out of the compass of his voice, in the great theatre of San Carlo at Naples.

The Italian Stage.

There is no doubt that the Italians knew the true dramatic art much earlier than any modern people in Europe ; and it is generally believed, that the two first regular dramas which made their appearance in the western world soon after the revival of learning, were the comedy of *Calandra*, by Cardinal Bibiena, and the tragedy of *Sophonisba*, by Giangiorgio Trissino ; the *Calandra* exhibited at Florence for the first time, and the *Sophonisba* at Vicenza. These pieces, and indeed all others, whether comedies, tragedies, or a mixture of both, went under the general appellation of *commedie antiche*, ancient comedies. The

tameness of their diction, the want of interesting incidents, and the insipidity of their plots ; but, above all, the Greek and Roman manner that pervaded them, at length cloyed and disgusted the public ; and consequently about the beginning of the seventeenth century, they became unpopular.

It then became necessary for Italian dramatists to furnish their audience with some new entertainments. Another species of drama was cultivated throughout Italy, more conformable to the vivacity of the Italians, and more anologous to their customs, and the personages of this new kind of dramatic entertainment played in masks.

Ricoboni, a famous Italian comedian at Paris, in a work which he has dedicated to an English queen, has very satisfactorily proved, that the masked actors, *commedell' arte* (a cant name for those burlesque plays substituted for the *commedie antiche* are not wholly of modern invention, but lineally descended from the Attellanas of Romans, which kept their power of pleasing the Italians from generation to generation through all the barbarous ages, standing their ground in many obscure parts of Italy against the regular tragedies and comedies produced by the numerous successors of Trissino and Bibiena.

Each of these marked personages in *commedie dell' arte*, was originally intended as a kind of characteristic representative of some particular Italian district or town. The Pantalone was a Venetian merchant ; the Dottore, a Bolognese physician ; the Spavento, Neapolitan braggadocio ; Pullicenella, a clown of Apulia ; Giangurgolo and Coviello, clowns of Calabria ; Gelsomino, a Beau ; Beltrame, a Milanese simpleton ; Belhella, a Ferrarese pimp ; and Arlecchino, a blundering servant of Bergamo.

Each of these personages was clad in peculiar dress ; each had his peculiar manner, and each spoke the dialect of the place he represented.

Besides these and a few other such personages, of which at least four were introduced in each play, there were the Amorous Inamoratos ; that is, some men and women who affected serious parts, with Smeralda, Colombina, Spilletta, other females played the parts of *serviettas*, or waiting-maids. All these spoke Tuscan or Roman, and no masks.

Few of the plays in which these marked personages were introduced, have been printed ; indeed they were seldom written. Then authors only wrote in a very cautious way, the business of each scene in progressive order ; and sticking to two *commedie* (for so this kind of dramatic sketch is called) in two lateral back parts of the stage before the entertainment began, the actor caught the subject of the scene, never necessary, and spoke either simply or colloquially on the subject. Of these *commedie*, several are extant. Flaminio Scala, comedian, has published fifty of them, his own invention in 1611.

s way of composing comedies will be
 ht very singular in England, where a
 regularity of composition prevails; but
 igner cannot conceive with what readi-
 ne Italian actors perform their extempore
 and yet how difficult it is both for
 and foreigners to discover that they
 extempore. Mr. Garrick expressed
 much pleased with these performers;
 ble at Naples, the chamberlain to the
 and him, that if he would write down any
 fic fable, and give the argument only of
 nes to the King's Italian actors, they
 within twenty-four hours perform the
 fore him.

delight given by these extempore per-
 ces, depends chiefly on the abilities of
 ors; and able actors in this way can-
 many, especially in a country where
 re no such immense towns as London
 ris, that can afford a maintenance to
 s of them at once, out of which many
 brought by emulation to approach
 r less to excellence. The Italians,
 e, in order to help the middling actors,
 reduced music upon the stage about
 ginning of the last century, which
 about the formation of those musical
 now called *operas* when they are
 and *opera buffas*, or *burlettas*, when
 burlesque.

first writers of operas, whether scri-
 urlesque, scarcely any have escaped
 and none of them really merited to
 ir names preserved. Zeno and Me-
 ire the only two who are entitled to
 our.

dition to burlesque plays, operas,
 lettas, the Italians invented two
 cies of drama, pastoral and rustic

pastoral plays, some hundreds are
 found in the collections of the curi-
 as pastoral life never existed but in
 vent imaginations of love-sick girls,
 lays could never allure the many, and
 themselves long. They are now so
 y exploded throughout Italy, that
 and name of Politian himself cannot
 s *Orfeo* the first pastoral play in
 from total disregard, and even
 d scarcely know that such a play

stic plays, the Italians never had
 l of them the *Tancia* is only gener-
 n to polite readers. This *Tancia*
 n by Michael Angelo-Buonarrotti, a
 the famous Michael Angelo. It is
 drama in rhyme; and its personages
 tine peasants. The neatness of its
 and the truth of its manners, are

It is looked upon as one of the
 that Italy has produced; but it is
 iger acted in public, though some-
 ight on the private stages of the col-
 ay of entertainment to young stu-
 autumnal vacations, or during the
 carnival.

e names of the French tragic
 l especially those of Corneille and

Racine, began to be commonly known in
 Italy, some Italians thought of writing tra-
 gedies modelled after the French manner.
 Many such were therefore composed in a
 little time, amongst which the *Merope*, by the
 Marquess Maffei; the *Ulysse*, by Lazzarini;
 the *Elettra*, by Count Gasparo Gozzi; and a
 few more, met with much approbation on
 several stages of Italy. The tragedies of
 Corneille, Racine, Crebillon, and Voltaire,
 translated into Italian blank verse, were also
 represented; but these did not suit the taste
 of the vulgar, who saw no pleasure in weeping,
 and would still have kept invariably faithful
 to their Harlequins, Pantaloons, Brighellas,
 and the other masks, if Goldoni and Chiari
 had not suddenly made their appearance
 towards the middle of the last century. These
 two strange mortals were both in the same
 year accidentally engaged to compose comedies
 for two different stages at Venice. It is not
 to be conceived how prodigiously popular
 they both became, after having exhibited two
 or three of their fantastical and absurd com-
 positions, and how quickly they brought
 show, and noise, and nonsense into vogue:
 the like has never been seen in any country.
 However, it must be observed, that part of
 their rapid popularity they owed to their
 satirizing one another upon the stage in a
 most unmerciful manner. It was chiefly by
 these means that the combatants divided the
 people into two parties, who supported their
 favourites with the utmost zeal.

None of Goldoni's and Chiari's productions
 can really stand the test of criticism. They
 both were born without wit, and educated
 without learning. Yet an epidemical frenzy
 in their favour seized the Venetians, both
 high and low, and quickly spread itself from
 Venice to almost all parts of Italy. That
 frenzy was then much increased by the pre-
 posterous praises lavished by Monsieur de
 Voltaire on Goldoni, as they contributed
 much to his getting some superiority over his
 antagonist.

These fruitful geniuses in the space of about
 ten years supplied the stage with several
 hundreds of plays; and Goldoni in particular
 boasted in one of them, entitled, *Il Teatro*
Comico, that he had composed sixteen come-
 dies in a year, of which he produced the titles
 from the mouth of an actor.

Such a rapidity of entertainments rendered
 the two pseudo-poets absolute sovereigns of
 the stage; and nobody knows how long their
 empire would have lasted, if some learned
 men, tired with this double deluge of nonsense,
 had not begun to harass them both with
 criticism.

The two bards finding themselves attacked
 very closely, thought it prudent to suspend
 their natural animosity, composed a hasty
 piece, and joined to oppose their censurers.

One of the first, and by far the ablest of
 their opponents, was Carlo Gozzi, younger
 brother to Count Gaspario Gozzi, and he was
 soon followed by others.

It happened one day that Carlo Gozzi met
 with Goldoni in a bookseller's shop. They

exchanged sharp words; and in the heat of their altercation, Goldoni told his merciless critic that it was an easy task to find fault with a play, but desired him to observe, that to write a play was a very difficult one. Gozzi replied, that to find fault with a play was really easy; but that it was still easier to write such plays as would please so thoughtless a nation as the Venetians; adding, in a tone of contempt, that he had a good mind to make all Venice run to see the tale of the 'Three Oranges' formed into a comedy. Goldoni, with some of his partizans then in the shop, challenged Gozzi to do it if he could; and the critic thus piqued, engaged to produce such a comedy within a few days.

Who could ever have thought that to this trifling and casual dispute, Italy should owe the greatest dramatic writer that it ever had? Gozzi quickly wrote a comedy in five acts, entitled, *I Tre Aranci*, 'The Three Oranges,' formed out of an old woman's tale, with which the Venetian children are much entertained by their nurses. The comedy was acted; and the three beautiful princesses, born of the three enchanted oranges, made all Venice crowd to the theatre of St. Angelo.

It may easily be imagined, that Goldoni and Chiari were not spared in the *Tre Aranci*. Gozzi found means to introduce in it a good many of their theatrical absurdities, and exposed them to public derision. The Venetians, like all other Italians, do not greatly care for the labour of searching after truth, and their imagination runs too often away with them, while their judgment lies dormant. But point out sense to them, and they will instantly seize it. This was remarkably the case on the first night that the comedy of the *Three Oranges* was acted. The fickle Venetians forgot instantly the loud acclamations with which they had received the greater part of Goldoni and Chiari's plays, laughed obstreperously at them both, and applauded the *Three Oranges* in a most frantic manner.

This good success encouraged Gozzi to write more; and his new plays changed in a little time so entirely the taste of the Venetian audiences, that in about two seasons Goldoni was utterly stripped of his theatrical honours, and poor Chiari totally annihilated.

Garrick.

'If manly sense; if nature link'd with art;
If thorough knowledge of the human heart;
If pow'rs of acting, vast and unconfin'd;
If fewest faults, with greatest beauties join'd;
If strong expressions, and strange pow'rs which
lie

Within the magic circle of the eye;
If feelings which few hearts, like his, can
know,
And which no face so well as his can show,
Deserve the preference—GARRICK, take the
chair,
Nor quit it, till you place an equal there.'

CHURCHILL.

The British Roscius, a title justly given to

Garrick during his life, and which no one has since disputed, made his first appearance on the stage at Ipswich, in 1741, in the character of Absan, in the tragedy of *Oroonoko*. After a summer spent in the country, he determined to venture on the London stage; he applied to the managers of Drury Lane and Covent Garden, and was rejected; and he was obliged to accept an offer of playing at the theatre in Goodman's Fields. He made his first appearance there on the 19th of October, 1741, in the character of Richard III.; when, like the sun bursting from behind an obscure cloud, he displayed in the very earliest dawn a more than meridian brightness. His excellence dazzled and astonished everyone; and the seeing a novice to the stage, reaching at one single bound the height of perfection, was a phenomenon which could not but become the object of universal admiration. The theatre at the court end of the town were deserted, persons of all ranks flocked to Goodman's Fields, and the line of carriages on an evening is said to have frequently reached in one continued line from Temple Bar to the theatre. Mr. Garrick continued to act till the close of the season, when he went to Dublin. In the ensuing winter he appeared at Drury Lane Theatre, and from that time to his quitting the stage, on the 10th of June, 1776, his popularity was undiminished.

Of this great actor it has been truly said that 'tragedy, comedy, and farce, the love and the hero, the jealous husband who suspects his wife's virtue without a cause, and the thoughtless lively rake who attacks without design, were all alike open to his imitation, and all alike did honour to his execution. Every passion of the human breast seemed subjected to his powers of expression; nay, even time itself appeared to stand still in advance as he would have it. Rage and ridicule, doubt and despair, transport and tenderness, compassion and contempt, love, jealousy, fear, fury, simplicity, all took in turn possession of his features, while each of these in turn appeared to be the sole possessor of those features. One night old Age sat on his countenance, as if the wrinkles he had stamped there were indelible; the next, the gaiety and bloom of youth seemed to overspread his face, and smooth even those marks which time and muscular conformation might have really made.'

Garrick made his theatrical appearance long before the death of Pope; and that great poet saw him perform. The following is the resting account of the event is given by Garrick himself. 'When I was told that Pope was in the house, I instantaneously felt palpitation at my heart; a tumultuous, not disagreeable emotion, in my mind. I was then in the prime of youth, and in the zenith of my theatrical ambition. It gave me a particular pleasure that *Richard* was my character when Pope was to see and hear me. As I opened my part, I saw our little poetical hero dressed in black, seated in a side box near the stage, and viewing me with a serious and earnest attention. His look shot and thrilled

lightning through my frame, and I had hesitation in proceeding, from anxiety of joy. As *Richard* gradually blazed the house was in a roar of applause, the conspiring hand of Pope shadowed the laurels.' Mr. Percival Stockdale 'Garrick was informed of Pope's opinion, and nothing could be more delightful than his praise. That young man, said Pope, had his equal as an actor, and he will have a rival.' This prophecy was about eighty years ago. From the authority we learn Dr. Johnson's opinion of the English Roscius. To a question put him by Mr. Stockdale, Johnson replied, 'Oh, sir, he deserves everything he requires, for having seized the very Shakspeare, for having embodied it self, and for having expanded its glory to a world.'

Garrick visited the continent, he was everywhere with the most distinguished marks of honour and esteem. Even heads vied with each other in the attestation they paid to him. Neither were his own profession slow in profiting by the lessons which he gave them in the art. Preville, the best actor of the age, acknowledged him for his master, and upon him as a model for imitation. As an actor, he once made a short excursion to Paris on horseback, when Preville fancied to act the part of a drunken

Garrick applauded the imitation, but when he wanted one thing, which was to complete the picture—he did not give it: *legs drunk*. 'Hold, my friend,' and I shall show you an English actor, after having dined at a tavern, and owed three or four bottles of port, is on horse in a summer evening, to go out into the country.' He immediately set out to exhibit all the gradations of inebriety; he called to his servant that the fields were turning round him; and spurred his horse until the animal whirled in every direction; at last he lost his whip, his feet seemed in the air, resting in the stirrups, the bridle slipped from his hand, and he appeared to be of no use at all; finally, from the use of all his faculties: finally, from his horse in such a death-like manner that Preville gave an involuntary cry, and his terror greatly increased around him, his friend made no answer to his questions. After wiping the dust from his eyes, he asked him again, with the emotion of friendship, whether he was drunk, whose eyes were closed, half of them, hiccupped, and with the dull tone of intoxication, called for assistance. Preville was astonished; and when he had started up and resumed his senses, he began to enquire, 'My friend, allow the scholar to em- master, and thank him for the son he has given him.'

Garrick's play of *King John*, was a favourite with his late Majesty, George the Third, who frequently commanded it to

be performed. Sheridan's success in *King John* heightened Garrick's jealousy, especially when he was informed by a very intimate acquaintance, that the king was uncommonly pleased with the actor's representation of the part. This was a bitter cup; and to make the draught still more unpalatable, upon his asking whether his majesty approved his playing the *Bastard*? he was told, without the least compliment paid to his action, it was imagined that the king thought the character was rather too bold in the drawing, and that the colouring was overcharged and glaring. Mr. Garrick, who had been so accustomed to applause, and who, of all men living, most sensibly felt the neglect of it, was greatly struck with the preference given to another, and which left him out of all consideration; and though the boxes were taken for *King John*, several nights successively, would never permit the play to be acted. The royal opinion of *King John* contributed to dissolve the union between these rival actors.

'Vivat Rex.'

In the early period of the English drama, it was customary for the actors at the end of a piece, when performed in noblemen's houses or taverns, to pray for the health and prosperity of their patrons; and in public theatres, for the king and queen. This prayer sometimes made part of the epilogue; hence it is probable that the addition of *vivat rex* to modern play bills has been derived.

Macklin and Shuter.

During the rehearsal of *Macbeth* by Macklin, when he was in the seventy-fifth year of his age, he was so prolix and tedious in the rehearsal of his character, as well as in his instructions to the other actors, that Shuter exclaimed, 'the case was very hard, for the time has been, that when the brains were out, the man would die, and there an end.' Macklin over-hearing him, good naturedly replied, 'Ah, Ned! and the time was, that when liquor was in, wit was out, but it is not so with thee.' Shuter rejoined, in the words of Shakspeare,

'Now, now, thou art a man again.'

French Translation of the 'Gamester.'

Mr. Moore's tragedy of the *Gamester*, was translated into French by M. Saurin, who entitled it 'Beverley,' and made some judicious alterations in the piece. He gave a regularity to the scenes, by changing the places from the house of Beverley, to that of Stukely and Wilson. M. Saurin has suppressed several of the most dreadful details. Bates and Lewson, the subaltern agents of the crimes of Stukely, have their parts considerably

abridged. The character of Mrs. Beverley is made amiable throughout, and in the scene where she penetrates the base designs of Stukely, the translator has introduced some sublime passages. He adopts the idea, that Stukely was in love with Mrs. Beverley before her marriage. In the scene where Stukely guarantees the fidelity of the gamblers who have ruined Beverley, Saurin makes the latter answer him in these words, 'Mais toi-même ! es-tu fidèle ?' 'But thyself ! art thou faithful ?' In various instances the French translation has improved on the original.

Voltaire and Piron.

Voltaire and Piron were contemporaries ; Piron, as a critic, did not relish all Voltaire's dramatic productions, and Voltaire was angry with Piron for not approving them. Voltaire, however, knowing the overwhelming force of Piron's opinion, called upon him one day with a new piece, which he thought had been laboured into such a state of perfection as to defy all criticism. 'There,' said he, 'my good friend, do me the favour to read that ; I will call for it in two days, and request your candid opinion of it.' Voltaire called upon his friend. 'Well, have you read it ?' 'Yes,' 'What do you think of it ?' 'I think it will be hissed,' 'You are mistaken,' said Voltaire, 'the manager has accepted it. Go with me to the theatre this day week, and see the representation.' They went ; the performance began, proceeded very heavily through two acts, in the third act the scenery met with some applause, the last two acts, from the hard efforts of the actors, passed quietly, and the curtain dropped. Voltaire then, jogging his companion, who appeared half asleep, said, 'Now, my good friend, you find you were mistaken.' 'Not much,' replied Piron. 'Yes,' said the other, 'you thought the piece would be hissed.' 'My dear sir,' rejoined Piron, 'how can people hiss when they yawn ?'

Fielding.

Although peculiar circumstances may sometimes have an influence in the success or condemnation of a play, yet the audience generally discover a taste and discrimination which are the best tests of merit. An instance of this occurred respecting Fielding's comedy of *The Wedding Day*. Garrick, who performed a principal character, and who was even then a favourite with the public, told Fielding he was apprehensive that the audience would make free with him in a particular passage, and remarked that as a repulse might disconcert him for the remainder of the night, the passage should be omitted. 'No,' replied Fielding, 'if the scene is not a good one, let the audience find *that* out.' The play was accordingly produced without alteration, and, as had been anticipated, marks of disapprobation appeared. Garrick, alarmed at the

hisses he had met with, retired into the green room, where the author was solacing himself with a bottle of champagne. He had by that time drank pretty freely, and glancing his eye on the actor, while clouds of tobacco issued from his mouth, cried out, 'What's the matter, Garrick ? what are they hissing now ?' 'Why the scene that I begged you to retrench,' replied the actor ; 'I knew it would not do, and they have so frightened me that I shall not be able to collect myself again the whole night.' 'Oh,' replied Fielding, with great coolness, 'they *have* found it out, have they ?'

'Three Weeks After Marriage.'

Murphy's farce of *Three Weeks after Marriage* affords a very striking proof of the capriciousness of public taste, and the injury of some public decisions. It was first produced in 1764, under the title of *What must all come to*, but met with so much opposition that the audience would not bear it to the conclusion. Twelve years after, Leventham ventured to produce it again at his benefit, with the new title, when it met with universal applause, and has continued ever since to be a favourite on the stage.

Mr. Palmer.

Mr. John Palmer, well known as an actor on the London boards, and for his struggles with the winter theatres, when he opened at the east end of the town, called the Royalty Theatre, terminated his dramatic career and his life on the Liverpool stage, 1798. On the morning of the day on which he was to have performed *The Stranger*, he received the distressing intelligence of the death of his second son, a youth in whom his dearest hopes were centred, and whose amiable manners had brought into action the tenderest affections of a parent. The performance, in consequence of this, was deferred, and during the interval he had in vain endeavoured to calm the agitation of his mind. The success with which he performed the piece (called for a second representation (August 1798), in which he fell a sacrifice to the pangs of his own feelings, and in which the audience were doomed to witness a catastrophe which was truly melancholy. In the fourth act, Baron Steinfort obtains an interview with the Stranger, whom he discovers to be his old friend. He prevails on him to relate the cause of his seclusion from the world. In this relation the feelings of Mr. Palmer were visibly much agitated, and at a moment he mentioned his wife and child, having uttered, as in the character, 'O God ! there is another and a better world than he fell lifeless on the stage. The audience supposed for the moment that his fall was nothing more than a studied addition to the part, but on seeing him carried off in distress, the utmost astonishment and sympathy became depicted in every countenance.

imerton, Callan, and Mara were the persons who conveyed the lifeless corpse from the stage into the scene room. Medical assistance was immediately procured, his wounds were opened, but they yielded not a drop of blood, and every other means of resuscitation were had recourse to, without success. The gentlemen of the faculty, finding every endeavour ineffectual, formally announced his death.

Deaths on the Stage.

In the history of the stage there are several instances, besides that of Mr. Palmer, of performers who in favourite characters have fallen away to such an intensity of feeling as to die on instant death.

In October, 1758, Mr. Paterson, an actor attached to the Norwich company, was playing the Duke in *Measure for Measure*, when he played in a masterly style. Mr. Paterson was the Claudio, and in the third act, when the Duke (as the Friar) was preparing him for execution next morning, Paterson died on sooner spoken these words—

— Reason thus with life,
I do lose thee I do lose a thing
That none but fools would keep; a breath
Thou art;

He dropped into Mr. Moody's arms, and instantly. He was interred at Bury St. Edmunds, and on his tombstone his last words, as above, are engraved.

A gentleman of the name of Bond, collector-party of his friends, got up Voltaire's *Zara* (which a friend had translated for him), at the Music Room in Villiers Street, Buildings, and chose the part of the man for himself. His acting was considered as a prodigy, and he so far yielded himself up to the force and impetuosity of his action that on the discovery of his error he fainted away. The house rung with applause; but finding that he continued in that situation, the audience began to be uneasy and apprehensive. The entreaties of Chatillon and Nerestan brought him to his chair; he then faintly spoke, and held his arms to receive his children, raised his eyes to heaven, and then closed for ever.

In June, 1817, when the tragedy of *Jane* was performing at Leeds Theatre, Mr. Briggs, a respectable veteran, who had an elevated rank on the stage for nearly a century played the part of Dumont. He just repeated the benedictory words, 'Witness for me, ye celestial hosts, thy mercy, and such pardon, as my soul demands to thee, and begs of heaven to show thee; such befall me at my latest hour.'

He fell down on the stage, and instantly died. The shock inflicted upon the feelings of the audience soon spread through the land, and seldom has been witnessed so great a tribute to departed worth, as was

everywhere manifested. The performance, of course, immediately closed. For some time, Mr. Cummings, the circumstances of whose death so nearly resemble those of Mr. Palmer, had laboured under that alarming malady designated by the name of an ossification of the heart; and to this circumstance, added to the strength of his feelings in the mimic scene, his death is to be attributed.

Russian Stage.

After the return of Kotzebue from Siberia, the Emperor Paul of Russia appointed him manager of the German Theatre at St. Petersburg. The censorship, though at the time exercised with much lenity by the Aulic counsellor, Adelung, gave Kotzebue great trouble. In order to please the Emperor Paul, the word republic was not allowed to be pronounced in his play of *Octavia*, nor did Anthony dare to say, 'Die like a Roman, free!' In his comedy of *The Epigram*, it was found necessary to change the Emperor of Japan into the master of that island, and to leave out the observation that caviare comes from Russia, and that Russia is to the Germans a distant country; the counsellor was not suffered to think himself a good patriot, in having refused to marry a foreigner; nor was the remark allowed that a valet could be an insolent fellow; the passage which observes that his highness is neither blind nor sick, was struck out; the princess was not permitted to have a greyhound, nor the counsellor to tickle the dog's ear.

In the play entitled *The Two Klingsbergs*, the Russian prince, who is incidentally mentioned, was transformed into a great foreign nobleman; the lady who is to wear a Polish cap, was made to wear an Hungarian one; the word fortress was changed to prison, courtier to flatterer, and my uncle the minister to my all-powerful uncle. The exclamation of young Klingsberg respecting his aunt and Amelia, 'At last they will be princesses,' was struck out as offensive.

In the play called *The Abbé de l'Épée* (the Blind Boy) citizens were not allowed to live at Toulouse. Franval durst not say, 'Woe to my native country!' but 'Woe to my country!' because a Russian edict prohibited the use of the word native country or father's land. 'These instances,' Kotzebue justly observes, 'are sufficient to show how dangerous the office of Censor was to him who exercised it, and how oppressive to the author upon whom it was exercised. Mr. Adelung, with the best disposition in the world, could not render the burthen lighter to me.'

Benefit Play-Bill.

Linton, a musician belonging to the orchestra of Covent Garden Theatre, was murdered by some street robbers, who were discovered and executed. A play was given for the benefit of his widow and children, and

the day preceding the performance, the following appeared in one of the public prints:—

'Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.'

FOR THE BENEFIT OF MRS. LINTON, &c.

'The widow,' said Charity whispering in my ear, 'must have your mite; wait upon her with a guinea, and purchase a box ticket.'

'You may have one for five shillings,' observed Avarice, pulling me by the elbow.

My hand was in my pocket, and the guinea which was between my fingers, slipped out.

'Yes,' said I; 'she shall have my five shillings.'

'Good heaven!' exclaimed Justice, 'what are you about? Five shillings! If you pay but five shillings for going into the theatre, then you get value received for your money.'

'And I shall owe him no thanks,' added Charity, laying her hand upon my heart, and leading me on the way to the widow's house.

Taking the knocker in my left hand, my whole frame trembled. Looking round, I saw Avarice turn the corner of the street, and I found all the money in my pocket grasped in my hand.

'Is your mother at home, my dear?' said I to a child who conducted me into the parlour.

'Yes,' answered the infant, 'but my father has not been at home for a great while; that is his harpsichord, and that is his violin. He used to play on them for me.'

'Shall I play you a tune, my boy?' said I.

'No, sir,' continued the boy, 'my mother will not let them be touched, for since my father went abroad, music makes her cry, and then we all cry.'

I looked on the violin; it was unstrung. It was out of tune. Had the Lyre of Orpheus sounded in mine ear, it could not have insinuated into my frame thrills of sensibility equal to what I felt.

'I hear my mother on the stairs,' said the boy. I shook him by the hand. 'Give her this,' said I, and left the house. It rained; I called a coach, drove to a coffee-house, but not having a farthing in my pocket, borrowed a shilling at the bar.

Irish Puffing.

Kemble and Lewis chancing to be at Dublin at the same time, were both engaged by the manager for one night's performance in *Leon* and the *Copper Captain*. Their announcement was coupled with the following delectable passage. 'They never performed together in the same piece, and in all human probability, they never will again; this evening is the *summit* of the manager's *climax*. He has constantly gone higher and higher in his endeavours to delight the public; beyond this, it is not in *nature* to go.'

French Theatres.

The French are certainly a dramatic people. No false or meretricious allurements are necessary to give attractions to a French

theatre. 'There, as Hamlet says, 'The play, the play's the thing;' and it is always found sufficient to fill the houses and interest the audiences, without any sacrifice of propriety to stage effect, or any insult to truth and public feeling.

The French theatres have long been under the immediate control of the government, and various regulations have at different periods been made respecting them. In November, 1796, a decree was passed, and which still continues in force, enacting that a decime on every franc of the price of admission at all places of public amusement, should be collected for the use of the poor—that is, one-tenth of the receipts.

It is curious to remark that a similar tax was proposed in England to Mr. Secretary Walsingham in 1586, by some zealous persons, as a trifling fine on the immorality of stage plays. 'If this mischief must be tolerated,' says the memorial, 'let every stage in London pay a weekly pension to the poor; that *ex hoc malo proveniat aliquod bonum*; but it is rather to be wished that plays might be used as Apollo did his laughing, *semel in anno*.'

The produce of the French tax on plays, from the year 1811 to 1816, a period in which so many extraordinary events have occurred, serves as a kind of moral thermometer, to show to how little vicissitude of feeling the public mind in France is subject, and with what regularity the course of amusement went on during the Austrian campaign, the retreat from Moscow, the capture of Paris, and the establishment and re-establishment of the Bourbons. During the whole of these events, the tax on the theatres did not vary more than ten per cent. Even the year which immediately followed one of the heaviest calamities that ever befel a nation, the retreat from Russia, witnessed but little diminution in the quantity of public amusement, or the gaiety of France.

In the year 1807, there were no fewer than twenty-three theatres in Paris; but these, by an Imperial decree of August in that year, were reduced to eight. All these theatres and various places of amusement, are not merely under the general superintendence of the police, but are specially regulated by a code of laws, promulgated successively by the convention, the consuls, the emperor, and the king, in which all the details of scenic representation, from the choice of pieces to be played, down to that of the boxkeepers, are minutely regulated.

The French actors form a kind of joint-stock company; and a committee of six, with a commissioner named by the Government, is appointed to manage the interests of the society. The committee, however, have little power, the principal authority being vested in the commissioner. The receipts of the theatre are divided into twenty-four equal parts; one part is set aside for unexpected demands; one half part is given to pension or superannuation fund; another half part is assigned to the decorations, scenery, repairs, &c. The other twenty-two parts are

distributed amongst the actors, none receiving more than one part, nor less than one-eighth of a part.

These actors, on entering this society, contract an engagement to play for twenty years, which they are entitled to a retiring pension of 4000 francs per annum, about 16000 francs.

These pensions are payable, half out of the annual allowance of 100,000 francs made by Government to the theatre; and the other half, out of funds raised out of the receipts and contributions of the actors.

Havana Theatre.

Among the amusements at the Havana, the theatre is a great favourite. It is only on grand nights, which circumstances are always advertised, as well as a promise of the piece. The following is a list of an Havana playbill. 'This evening will be presented to the illustrious and respectable people of the Havana, the famous and much admired comedy, entitled *El Conde de Azevedo*, in which Senor ... will perform the part of a Gracioso, who delivers many truly agreeable and witty speeches; as will the Senora Gamborino, in the character of a Graciosa, whose diverting actions and smart speeches will give delight to the audience. The comedy is adorned by appropriate dresses and decorations; amongst others, the march of the Spanish army to attack the infidels, with suitable warlike accompaniments—the hero on horseback—the Moorish champion advancing to challenge the Spaniards, the Spanish conqueror, with the assistance of the *Azevedo*, will cut off the head of the Moor; with many other agreeable and surprising incidents. The theatre will be decorated with perfect brilliancy, so as to present this most respectable public every night with a new and interesting scene.

Cherry.

Young Cherry, the author of the *Soldier's Boy*, and several other dramatic pieces, made his first debut as an actor in a strolling company, which exhibited at the little town of ... about fourteen miles from Dublin. His character was Colonel Feignwell, in *A Stroke for a Wife*; an arduous part for a boy of seventeen, but he obtained much applause; and the manager of this company, after passing many encomiums on his exertions, presented him with halfpenny, as his dividend of the profits of that night's performance. Young Cherry was now launched out into a most extensive range of characters, and during the ten years he was with this manager, he acted in all the principal characters in tragedy, comedy, and farce; and yet notwithstanding his various exertions, he suffered all the vicissitudes of a precarious life. He was frequently without the

means of common subsistence, and sometimes even unable to buy the very candles by which he should study the numerous characters that were assigned him.

In the town of Athlone, a circumstance of peculiar distress is said to have attended this enthusiast of the sock and buskin, but which he bore with all the magnanimity that dramatic ardour could inspire. The business of the theatre was suspended for a short time, in consequence of the benefits having turned out ill, and the manager resolved not to waste any more bills, but wait for the races, which were to commence in a few days.

Our hero being of a timid and youthful turn, and assisted by a portion of youthful pride, was incapable of making those advances, and playing off that train of theatrical tricks, by which means benefits are frequently obtained in the country, and therefore he had been less successful than many of his brethren. His landlady perceiving there was no prospect of payment, satisfied herself for the trifle already due, by seizing on the remnant of our hero's wardrobe; and knowing she could dispose of her lodgings to more advantage during the races, turned him out to the mercy of the winter's wind, which he endured with all his former philosophy. He rambled carelessly about the streets, sometimes quoting passages to himself, both comic and serious, that were analogous to his situation, but without forming one determined idea of where he was to rest his houseless head. Towards the close of the evening, he strolled by accident into the lower part of the theatre, which had formerly been an inn, and was then occupied by a person, whose husband had been a serjeant of dragoons, for the purpose of retailing refreshments, &c., to those who visited the theatre. After chatting until it grew late, the woman hinted to Mr. Cherry, that she wished to go to bed, and begged he might retire; upon which he replied, in the words of Don John, 'I was just thinking of going home, but that I have no lodging.' The good woman, taking the words literally, inquired into the cause, with which he acquainted her without disguise. Being the mother of a family, she felt severely for his distressed situation; at that time he did not possess a single halfpenny in the world, nor the means of obtaining one. The poor creature shed tears of regret that she could not effectually alleviate his misfortune. He endeavoured to assume a careless gaiety; but the woman's unaffected sorrow brought the reflection of his own disobedience to his mind, and he dropped tears in plentiful libation; in his grief, he saw the sorrow of his parents, whom he had deserted, to follow what he began to perceive a mad career, in despite of the many unanswered remonstrances he had received, with a fair promise of forgiveness and affection, should he return to his business. This philanthropic female lamented that she could not furnish him with a bed, but offered to lend him her husband's cloak, and to procure a bundle of dry hay, that he might sleep in an empty room in her house,

His heart was too full to pay his gratitude in words; his eyes thanked her; he wept bitterly, accepted her kind offer, and retired to rest. The intruding any further on her kindness was painful to him, as she was struggling to maintain a numerous offspring. He therefore carefully avoided the house at meal times, and wandered through the fields or streets, until he supposed their repasts were finished; at last, so overcome by fasting and fatigue, that he could not rest, he rose from his trooper's cloak in the dead of the night, and explored the kitchen, searching the dresser and all its shelves and drawers, in hopes of finding something that might satisfy the cravings of his appetite, but in vain. On his return to his hay truss, he accidentally struck against the kitchen table, the noise of which he feared might alarm the family: and, uncertain of the real cause of his leaving his apartment at that hour, they might naturally suppose that his purpose was to rob the house, as a reward for their hospitality. The idea added to the misery he then suffered; he trembled, he listened, but all was quiet; he then renewed his search (for his hunger overcame his fears), and to his gratification he found a large crust of stale bread, which he was afterwards informed had been used for rubbing out some spots of white paint from the very cloak that composed his bedding: he, however, ate it with avidity, as he was entering on the fourth day without the least refreshment, and returned heartfelt thanks to Providence, whose omnipotent hand was stretched in the very critical moment, to save him from the most direful of all possible deaths, starving!

After enduring more than the usual hardships of a strolling player, he left the stage; once more 'returned to reason and the shop,' and remained at home for upwards of three years. The theatrical drum, however, again beat in his ears; he forgot the miseries he had endured, again sallied forth to seek the path of glory on the stage, and so far succeeded, as to become a favourite actor in a metropolitan theatre, and the author of several popular dramatic productions.

Minor Theatricals at Rome.

A recent traveller in Italy gives a curious account of one of the minor theatres at Rome.

'A play-bill,' says Lady Morgan, 'fastened to the broken trunk of Pasquin, seduced us, by its tempting programme, to visit the Teatro della Pace, resorted to by the people exclusively, and into whose smoky and time-stricken *salle de spectacle*, few English but ourselves had penetrated. The announcement for the evening promised *Moses*, which was asserted to be *cosa sagra e stupenda*, with a comedy and farce, *a morire da ridere* (to make you die with laughter). I think our box cost two pauls, and a few baiocchi (halfpence) placed our servant in the pit. For this moderate price, we saw the Jews fed with manna, an interlude extremely well acted, and

a farce, which perfectly fulfilled the promise of the play-bill; for Policinello was the irresistibly comic hero of the piece, which turned in some of its scenes on the ridicule of academies. The exquisite gravity with which Policinello took his place in the poetic circle, the absurdly ludicrous dress he wore, his impatience to seize on every moment of silence, with *adesso tocca a me* (it is my turn now), to read a canzone, whose length was the counterpart of Leporello's catalogue, combined to form a farcical scene of the richest humour; but no one who had not been present at the "real original" of this representation, and witnessed the doggedness with which the sonnetteers there pour forth their endless succession of *plattitudes*, could comprehend the convulsive roar of laughter it occasioned. The most exquisite part of the theatre was the audience. They shouted, screamed, and mingled their *bravos* and *bravissimos*, with *grambella cosa, cosa superba, cosa stupenda*. Meantime, the most amiable familiarity subsisted between that part of the audience nearest the stage and the performers. The prompter, with his head popped over the stage lights, talked to the girls in the pit: the violoncello flirted with a handsome *trasteverina* in the boxes; and a lady in the stage-box blew out the lamplighter's candle as often as he attempted to light it, to the infinite amusement of the audience, who loudly applauded her dexterity. With an economy duly practised at Rome by all classes, the musicians, when they had done playing between the several acts, extinguished their candles, put them in their pockets, and joined the audience in the front of the house. In justice, however, to La Pace, it must not be concealed, that the same economical custom prevails in many theatres, not of the very first order, throughout Italy.'

Bartholomew Fair—Puppet Shows.

The lowest species of dramatic entertainment is that of the puppet show, or as it was formerly called, a *motion*, which was once a great favourite in this country, and still prevails on the continent. At what period this species of amusement was first introduced into this country, is uncertain; there is, however, little doubt that it originated on the continent. Cervantes has made Don Quixote spectator of a puppet show; and we find still earlier mention of it in France and Italy.

The motions, or puppet shows, were last retained at Bartholomew Fair, where they formed a very prominent part of the amusements of this city carnival. Ben Jonson, in his comedy of *Bartholomew Fair*, gives a good description of them in his day. 'O the motions,' he makes one of his characters say, 'that I, Lanthorn Leatherhead, have given light to i' my time, since my master Pod (a celebrated motion maker) died. Jerusalem was a stately thing, and so was Nineve;

he city of Norwich, and Sodom and Grah; with the rising o' the 'prentices Shrove Tuesday; but the gunpowder there was a great penny! I have pre- that to an eighteen or twentypenny ice, nine times in an afternoon. Your born projects prove ever the best, they easy and familiar; they put too much in their things now-a-days, and that will spoil this.'

In another part of the comedy, we learn the motion alluded to by Lanthorn ahead, and which he feared would be by too much learning, was 'The t and modern History of Hero and Le- otherwise called the Touchstone of Love, with as rare a trial of friendship in Damon and Pythias, two faithful of the Bankside.' The 'printed book,' on further observes, 'is too learned o poetical for our audience, for what y know what Hellespont is? guilty of ve's blood? or what Abydos is? or the Sestos high?' The way in which he dernized it, is thus explained: 'I have ade it a little easy and modern for the sir; that's all. As for the Hellespont, ne our Thames here; and then Lean- make a dyer's son about Puddle Wharf; ero, a wench o' the Bankside, who, ver one morning to Old Fish Street, r spies her land at Trigg Stairs, and love with her. Now I do introduce having metamorphosed himself into a and he strikes Hero in love with a sherry; and other pretty passages re o' the friendship, that will delight , and please your judgment.'

ever successful 'home-born projects' ve been in Ben Jonson's days, yet the omew Fair audiences have subse- been entertained with more sublime tions, and such as will strongly re- e readers of the ancient mysteries of e. In a volume preserved among the n MSS. in the British Museum, there eat number of these motion-maker's hich give a full description of the ons of that time, which was in the ? Queen Anne. The two following most curious.

'rawly's booth, over against the Crown in Smithfield, during the time of omew Fair, will be presented a little alle the *Old Creation of the World*, ly revived; with the addition of Flood; also several fountains playing ring the time of the play. The last oes present Noah and his family out of the ark, with all the beasts, two and all the fowls of the air, seen in a sitting upon trees; likewise, over the en the rising sun, in a most glorious ; moreover, a multitude of angels will in a double rank, which presents a respect, one for the sun, the other for where will be seen six angels ringing

Likewise, machines descend from double and treble, with Dives rising ell, and Lazarus seen in Abraham's

bosom, besides several figures dancing jigs, sarabands, and country dances, to the admiration of all spectators; with the merry conceits of Squire Punch and Sir John Spendall.

'All this is completed with an entertainment of singing and dancing, with several naked swords, performed by a child of eight years of age, to the general satisfaction of all persons. Vivat Regina!'

The *Old Creation of the World*, new revived, appears to have been very popular, as the next bill, which is still more circumstantial, is on the same subject.

'BY HER MAJESTY'S PERMISSION.

'At Heatly's booth, over against the Cross Daggers, next to Mr. Miller's booth, during the time of Bartholomew Fair, will be presented a little opera, called the *Old Creation of the World*, newly revived, with the addition of the glorious battle obtained over the French and Spaniards by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough.

'The contents are these:

- '1. The creation of Adam and Eve.
- '2. The intreagues of Lucifer in the Garden of Eden.
- '3. Adam and Eve driven out of Paradise.
- '4. Cain going to plough, Abel driving sheep.
- '5. Cain killeth his brother Abel.
- '6. Abraham offering his son Isaac.
- '7. Three wise men of the East, guided by a star, who worship Him.
- '8. Joseph and Mary flee away by night upon an ass.
- '9. King Herod's cruelty, his men's spears laden with children.
- '10. Rich Dives invites his friends, and orders his porter to keep the beggars from his gate.

'11. Poor Lazarus comes a begging at rich Dives's gate, the dogs lick his sores.

'12. The Good Angel and Death contend for Lazarus's life.

'13. Rich Dives is taken sick and dieth, and is buried in great solemnity.

'14. Rich Dives in Hell, and Lazarus in Abraham's bosom, seen in a most glorious object, all in machines, descending in a throne, guarded with multitudes of angels, with the breaking of the clouds, discovering the palace of the sun, in double and treble prospects, to the admiration of all spectators. Likewise several rich and large figures, which dances jigs, sarabands, anticks, and country dances, between every act; compleated with the merry humours of Sir John Spendall and Punchanello, with several other things never yet exposed.

'Performed by Mat. Heatly.

'Vivat Regina!'

A Swiss traveller in Italy, M. Galiffe, gives a similar account of an exhibition which he saw in one of the inferior playhouses at Naples, where the price of admission was a penny or three-halfpence. Here he witnessed the whole history of our Saviour's death, performed by puppets. The orchestra consisted

of a very good hautboy, and of a bass, which only played two notes in accompaniment to each tune. The overture was the famous duet of 'Io ti lascio amato bene,' in Cimarosa's *Matrimonio Segreto*, and it was repeated between the acts. Whenever our Saviour was about to appear, he was announced by a solemn tune; Judas, on the contrary, was announced by a waltz, or an allemande, even when he came to hang himself, and was strangled by a fiend.

The manager did not attempt to produce the least illusion, for every speech of the play was preceded by a short explanation, as follows: 'Now you will see Nicodemus get up, and you shall hear how he endeavours to prove that Joseph is in the wrong, and he speaks in these terms.' After which, the puppet was supposed to pronounce a speech on the same subject as the argument. The history was very faithfully observed: it opened with a council convened by the High Priest Caiaphas, who presided at it; and several of the members recited very good speeches. After this came the Lord's Last Supper, with all its circumstances, and the washing of the apostles' feet. The ladies were the Virgin Mary, Mary Cleophas, and Veronica; the Miracle of the Sudary was very well executed. Christ was not nailed to the cross on the stage, but was discovered already crucified between the two thieves. St. Peter was seen to cut off the soldier's ear, and our Saviour to take it up and replace it. Judas hung himself on a tree on the stage, with the assistance of a fiend, who afterwards carried him off, &c. All this delighted the audience exceedingly, and they appeared to take the deepest interest in the whole of the history, although they were perfectly familiar with it already.

The first feelings that such a representation gives rise to are those of anger and disgust, that so solemn a subject should be permitted to be acted by puppets; but it is very differently considered in Italy, where it is even thought to be an auxiliary to religion.

Although motions or puppet shows are still favourites on the Continent, they have had their day in England, the exhibition of Punch being the only relic we have left of them; and Bartholomew Fair has for the last half century had theatrical booths in which popular dramas (generally tragedy) have been performed, and sometimes even by 'actors from the theatres-royal.' Yates and Shuter, eminent performers, had each a booth at Bartholomew Fair; the terms of admission to which were by no means moderate; the boxes were half-a-crown; pit, eighteenpence; first gallery, a shilling; upper gallery, sixpence. Humble as Bartholomew Fair theatricals were, they were not beneath the notice of the English Roscius, who, with his wife, visited Shuter's exhibition soon after his marriage; and upon their being rudely pushed, Mr. Garrick called upon his bill-sticker, Old Palmer, who had been engaged to receive the money at the entrance of the booth, for protection. Palmer, though a very strong man, professed

himself sorry he could not serve him in Smithfield, alleging that few people there knew Mr. Garrick off the stage.

On another occasion, it is related that Garrick was recognised, and when offering twopence, the admission money to one of the booths, the owner, who knew him, refused it, saying, 'We never takes nothing of one another in our line.'

Pantomimes.

In ancient Rome, the *Pantomimi* were the greatest actors of tragedy, by their looks and gestures; and in modern Italy, the learned have not disdained to rack their invention for their Sannio, or Clown, while princes have made the most famous of them their companions. It was an alteration of later times, though two centuries and a half ago, to change the dotards of Terence and Plautus into the Venetian Pantaloon; and the lover was necessarily added, to complete a drama sufficient to embrace plot or intrigue. These four characters have now become the essentials of pantomime; all the rest being either identified with one or other of them, or entirely incidental to the particular piece in which they appear.

At Naples, in the Largo del Castello, there are two theatres, La Fenice, and San Carlino, which are chiefly devoted to pantomimes for the amusement of the lower classes. The performers speak the broad Neapolitan dialect; and there you see the Policinello in his genuine colours. This Neapolitan Clown is somewhat similar to the Arlecchino of Bergamo, and the Pantaloon of Venice; but he is not an honourable specimen of the national character of his country, of which he is intended as the caricature. Policinello is represented as a servant from Acerra, a village near Naples, and is so highly gifted by nature and accomplished by education, that he is at once a thief, a liar, a coward, a braggart, and a debauchee; still the facetious way in which he relates his various feats, enraptures his grovelling countrymen. He delights in licentious *double entendre*, gross jokes, and dirty tricks; there is not a single good quality in him; his cunning is very low, and he is always outwitted when he meets with any person of sense, so that in the end he is generally discovered, imprisoned, whipped, and hanged. Such is the celebrated Policinello of Naples.

Some of the finest acting in the world, both tragic and comic, was formerly exhibited in pantomime; but now nothing is attempted beyond activity in the Harlequin and Columbine, decrepitude in the Pantaloon, and grimace in the Clown. A great prince observed of a Scaramuccia, who admirably depicted a whole scene of successive freights, *Scaramuccia non parla, e dica gran cosa*. 'He speaks not, but he says many great things.' This can scarcely be said of the pantomimic performers of the present day; for scenery and transformations have become the prin-

l, almost the sole, features of these re-entations.

has long been the custom at the two national theatres, as well as at most of the minor, to produce a new pantomime every Christmas. The best and most successful one brought out, was 'Mother Goose,' by F. Dibdin, which was performed upwards of a hundred and fifty nights, when first acted, in 1806-7; and has since frequently been repeated.

'George Barnwell.'

ello's tragedy of *George Barnwell*, which was great favourite at the country theatres, was usually performed once during the holidays, every season, at Covent Garden and Drury Lane, was so popular when first produced at the latter theatre, that it was performed twenty nights in succession to crowded houses; and Caroline, Queen to George the Second, sent to the theatre for the manuscript, in order that she might peruse it.

This tragedy has generally been considered a useful admonition to youth; and on one occasion at least, is said to have been the means of rescuing a young man from perdition. This was during the Christmas holidays, in 1752, when Mr. Ross played George Barnwell, and Mrs. Pritchard, Millwood. A few nights afterwards, Dr. Barrowby, the physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, was called for by a young gentleman in Great St. Helen's, who was apprenticed to a very eminent merchant. He found him very ill, as he suspected, of a complaint beyond the reach of medicine. The nurse told him, he sighed at times so very heavily, that it was sure something lay heavy on his mind. The doctor requested to be alone with the patient, when after much solicitation, he revailed on the youth to unbosom himself.

He said he was the second son of a man of fortune in Hertfordshire; that he had formed an improper acquaintance with a male, which had caused him to embezzle and expend money belonging to his employer, to the amount of £200. Two nights before the doctor saw him, he had seen Mr. Ross play *George Barnwell*, and was so forcibly struck with the coincidence between his own case and that of the well, that he had not enjoyed a moment's peace, and wished to die, that he might escape the shame which he saw hanging over him.

The doctor offered to intercede with the father of the young man for the money, and assured him that if he failed in getting it, that means, that he would furnish it himself.

The father, who had been sent for, arrived. The doctor took him into a private room, and after explaining the whole of the son's illness, entreated him to do the honour of his family, and the life of his son. The father instantly went to his clerk for the money, while the doctor attended to his patient, and informed him that all was now arranged to his satisfaction.

faction, as his father would soon return with peace and forgiveness, and never mention or even think of the subject again.

The youth, relieved from the load with which his mind was oppressed, soon recovered and afterwards became a very eminent merchant. Mr. Ross, the performer who had been so instrumental in saving this young man, and who relates the circumstance, says, he never knew either the gentleman or his name, but that for nine or ten years afterwards he always received on his benefit a sealed note, inclosing ten guineas, with these words:—'A tribute of gratitude from one who was highly obliged, and saved from ruin, by seeing Mr. Ross's performance of *Barnwell*.'

Theatrical Bon-Mot.

When Sir Charles Sedley's comedy of *Bellamira* was performed, the roof of the theatre fell down, by which, however, few people were hurt except the author. This occasioned Sir Fleetwood Shepherd to say, 'There was so much fire in his play, that it blew up the poet, house and all.' 'No,' replied the good-natured author, 'the play was so heavy, that it broke down the house, and buried the poor poet in his own rubbish.'

Sir Robert Walpole.

Although Sir Robert Walpole was frequently the subject of Gay's satire, yet this did not deter him from attending the performance of the *Beggar's Opera*. He was in one of the stage boxes at its first representation, when an universal *encore* attended the following air, which is sung by Lockit:

'When you censure the age,

Be cautious and sage,

Lest the courtiers offended should be;

If you mention *vice* or *bribe*,

'Tis so pat to all the tribe,

That each cries, *this was levell'd at me.*'

While this air was repeating, all eyes were directed to the minister; and Sir Robert observing the pointed manner in which the audience applied the last line to him, parried the hit by encoring it a second time with his single voice; and thus not only blunted the poetical shaft, but gained a general huzza from the audience. Few pieces ever met with such decided success as the *Beggar's Opera*, which was performed sixty-three nights the first season, and is still a great favourite on the stage.

Mrs. Powell.

When Mr. Boaden had read his unsuccessful drama of *Aurelio and Miranda*, in the Green Room, he observed, that he knew nothing so terrible as reading a piece before

such a critical audience. Mrs. Powell, the actress who was present, said she knew one thing much more terrible. 'What can that be?' demanded the author. 'To be obliged,' said she, 'to sit and hear it.'

An Amateur.

Charles Hulet, a comedian of some celebrity, in the early part of the last century, was an apprentice to a bookseller. After reading plays in his master's shop, he used to repeat speeches in the kitchen, in the evening, to the destruction of many a chair, which he substituted in the room of the real persons in the drama. One night, as he was repeating the part of Alexander, with his wooden representative of Clitus (an elbow chair), and coming to the speech where the old general is to be killed, this young mock Alexander snatched a poker, instead of a javelin, and threw it with such strength against poor Clitus, that the chair was killed upon the spot, and lay mangled on the floor. The death of Clitus made a monstrous noise, which disturbed the master in the parlour, who called out to know the reason; and was answered by the cook below, *Nothing, sir, but that Alexander has killed Clitus.*

Effect.

On the first representation of *Gabrielle de Vergi*, a tragedy, by Mr. Belloy, a French writer of some eminence in the last century, such was the impression and so terrific the effect of the *denouement* on the ladies, that many of them actually fainted, and others left the theatre. Several of those most affected, were taken into the dressing-room of the Sieur Raymond, a celebrated actor of that day, where, by proper assistance, they revived. The next day a wag caused an advertisement to be inserted in the *Journal de Paris*, immediately beneath the play-bill of the evening, stating that the ladies were thereby informed, that 'Mr. Raymond's dressing-room, which the night before had been very slenderly provided with *good things*, such as eau-de-cologne, brandy, liqueurs, and other comforts, would that evening be found to contain a choice stock suited to every variety of taste, with every species of salts adapted to fainting fits, from the slightest affection to the most confirmed convulsions; in short, with whatever could tend to render swooning perfectly agreeable and amusing.'

Mrs. Oldfield.

Mrs. Oldfield, who was the most distinguished actress of her day, was ushered into public life by the persuasions of Farquhar, who being accidentally at a tavern kept by a near relation of hers, heard a person reading a comedy in a room behind the bar, with so lively an idea of the humour of the charac-

ters, as gave him infinite surprise and satisfaction. His curiosity was too predominant to preserve the height of good manners; he made a pretence to go into the room, where he was struck dumb for some time with her figure and blooming beauty; but was still more astonished at her discourse and sprightly wit. Mr. Farquhar pressed her to pursue her amusement, but was obliged to depart without that satisfaction. Mr. Wilks was at that time in Ireland, and, therefore, he took some pains to acquaint Sir John Vanbrugh, who had a share in his theatre, with the jewel he had thus found out by accident. It was some time before she could be prevailed upon, though she afterwards used merrily to confess, *she longed to be at it, and only wanted a little decent entreaty.* Sir John recommended her to Mr. Rich, who engaged her at sixteen shillings a week, and at this salary she remained twelve months; and at a time when her popularity was at its height, she did not receive more than three hundred guineas a year. In honour of the generosity of this excellent actress, it should be recorded, that when Savage was persecuted by an unnatural mother, and reduced to the greatest indigence, Mrs. Oldfield humanely settled upon him an annuity of £50 per annum, which she continued to him as long as he lived.

A Blunder.

When Mr. Garrick introduced an alteration on the stage, in the pronunciation of the letter *a*, it gave rise to a whimsical occurrence at Covent Garden Theatre, in the rehearsal of *Coriolanus*, which was preparing for the benefit of Thomson's sisters. In that scene, where the Roman ladies come in procession to solicit Coriolanus to return to Rome, they are attended by the tribunes. The centurions of the Volscian army bearing *fasces*, they were ordered by Coriolanus, then played by Mr. Quin, to lower them as a token of respect. The men who personated the centurions, imagining through Mr. Quin's mode of pronunciation, which was of the old school, that he said their *faeces*, they all bowed their heads together, instead of lowering the ensigns of their authority.

Caprice.

In 1734, Voltaire produced his tragedy *Adelaide du Guesclin*, which was hissed through every act. In 1765, Le Kain revived the play which had so long lain under condemnation, when every scene was applauded. 'What can I think,' says Voltaire, 'of these opposite judgments?' Cases of this sort are not uncommon. The circumstance of the farce of *Three Weeks after Marriage*, has already been noticed. Another anecdote of the same character may be added. A banker at Paris, having orders to get a new march for one of the regiments of Charles XII., employed a man of talents for the pur-

The march was prepared, and played before the banker's house before a numerous assembly. The music was declared to be excellently bad. Mouret, the composer, retired from his performance, and soon after inserted one of his operas. The banker and his family saw the opera, and applauded the whole. He reproached Mouret. 'Why, sir, did you not give us something in better taste? This was what we wanted.' 'Sir,' replied Mouret, 'the march which you applauded at the opera, is the very same which was condemned before at your own house.'

'Orders.'

A French author, who had produced a very successful production, was very liberal in the distribution of orders on the first night of its performance. The piece was, however, so that all his hired friends deserted him, not one, who faithful to his promise, and open to conviction, was reduced at last to despair and cheer at the same time. 'Is it possible,' said a spectator, 'that you can love and disapprove at the same time?' 'No,' said he, 'that is not the case: I think this play is the most execrable thing ever was performed, but I came in with orders, and have a great regard for the writer; and so that I may neither wrong my own judgment, I have *abused* the author out of justice to myself until I am paid, and I have clapped it to oblige him as my hands are sore.'

A Grace beyond the Reach of Art.'

On the first night on which the musical comedy of *Lodoiska* was performed, the last scene had a very natural and fine effect, from the great danger of Mrs. Crouch, the heroine, who appeared in the blazing castle. The actress approached the flames rather too near the danger where she was stationed; she felt them, and could not retire without spoiling the effect. She therefore, with true fortitude, she maintained her situation at the hazard of her life until Mr. Kelly, alarmed for her safety, hastily snatched her from danger, when she slipped, and he fell from a considerable height.

She then uttered a scream of terror, and evidently he was not hurt by the fall, at a moment caught her in his arms. Not knowing what he did, he turned her to the front of the stage with rapidity and mingled terror. Mrs. Crouch, *actually* seized by the flames, and alarmed first by Kelly's fall, and then at his precipitancy, nearly insensible of her situation; but the audacity which they received from the actress, who thought their *acting* uncommonly excellent, roused them from their illusions for each other, and at the same time convinced them of the *effect*, which they were far superior to any studied scene, and danger and their fears were well

timed, and perfectly in character. They profited therefore ever after from that involuntary scene, by imitating, as closely as possible, their real fears in those they were obliged to feign.

Colley Cibber.

Colley Cibber, known for some years by the name of Master Colley, made his first appearance on the stage in a very subordinate situation. After waiting impatiently for the prompter's notice, he by good fortune obtained the honour of carrying a message on the stage to one of the principal actors of that day, whom he greatly disconcerted by his awkwardness. Betterton in anger inquired who it was that had committed such a blunder. Drones, the prompter, replied, 'Master Colley.' 'Then forfeit him,' rejoined Betterton. 'Why, sir, he has no salary.' 'No! then put him down ten shillings a week, and forfeit him five.' To this good-natured adjustment of rewards and punishments Cibber owed the first money he received from the dramatic treasury.

Cibber, in a conversation with Mrs. Bracegirdle on the subject of Garrick's performance of Bayes in *The Rehearsal*, spoke of the Roscius with affected derogation, saying, 'to be sure Garrick was well enough, but not superior to his son Theophilus.' Mrs. Bracegirdle replied, 'Come, come, Cibber, tell me if there is not something like envy in your character of this young gentleman? The actor who pleases everybody must be a man of merit.' The old man felt the force of this sensible rebuke, and frankly replied, 'Why, faith, Bracy, I believe you are right; the young fellow is clever.'

Mrs. Cibber.

When Mr. Whitehead's comedy of *The School for Lovers*, was read before the performers at Garrick's house, it was suggested that the age of Celia (the character intended for Mrs. Cibber), which was sixteen, would be better altered to two or three-and-twenty. Mrs. Cibber, who was then reading her part with spectacles, said she liked the character better as it was, and desired it might remain as it stood. She was then more than fifty years old; but the uncommon symmetry, and exact proportion in her form, with her singular vivacity, enabled her to represent the character with all the juvenile appearance marked by the author.

Grimaldi.

Previous to the establishment of the Italian Opera in France, theatres were erected at the fairs of St. Germain and St. Laurent, which, though at first of an inferior kind, were in the end productive of great improvement in dramatic humour, and the Italian and comic theatres owed some of their best dancers and

comic actors to this school. Amongst other dancers who performed with great celebrity at this fair was the grandfather of the present celebrated Grimaldi. He was then just come from Italy, and was called, for distinction's sake, *Iron Legs*, from his being supposed to be the best jumper in the world, an exercise for which there was at that time a prevailing taste in France. He once jumped so high that he broke a chandelier, a piece of which hitting the Turkish ambassador, who was in the stage box, he considered his conduct as a premeditated insult, and complained to the French court of the outrage, when Grimaldi was obliged to make an apology.

The French were for a time infatuated with Grimaldi, but being imprisoned for some act of indecorum committed on the stage, he began to lose popularity, and was at length obliged to fly into Flanders.

Theatricals in India.

Mrs. Cargill, an actress of some eminence for her vocal talents, went to India in 1782; she was remarkably successful not only in her own line, but also in tragedy. Her benefit at Bengal, amounted to the astonishing sum of £1500 sterling. On her return home in 1784, she was unfortunately lost with several other passengers on board the *Nancy Packet*, and was found on the rocks of Seilly, floating with an infant clasped fast in her arms.

A Real Beggar's Opera.

At the suburb Opera House at Vienna, called *Schauspielhause*, Mr. Dibdin witnessed a ballet called *Die Berggeist*, and which he describes in his 'Bibliographical Tour.' It was performed entirely by children of all ages, from three to sixteen, with the exception of a venerable bearded old gentleman, who was called the genius of the mountain. All the children employed in the ballet (nearly one hundred and twenty in number), were either beggar children, and the offspring of beggars, or of the lowest classes of society, and earned their livelihoods by asking alms. Mr. Hor-schelt, the author of the drama, conceived the plan of converting these hapless little vagabonds into members of some honest and useful calling. An active little match girl, who had solicited alms in a winning and graceful manner, was converted into columbine. A young lad of a sturdy form became clown; and a slim youth was made to personate Harlequin; and thus he moulded and formed the different characters of his entertainment absolutely and exclusively out of the very lowest orders of society.

The effect of this ballet was very striking; and on the conclusion of the piece, the stage was entirely filled with the hundred and twenty juvenile performers, divided into classes, according to size, dress, and talent. After a succession of rapid evolutions, the whole group moved gently to the sound of soft music, while masses of purple-tinted

clouds descended around them. Some of them were received into the clouds, which were then lifted up, when they displayed groups of the smallest children upon their very summits, united by wreaths of roses, while the larger children remained below. The entire front of the stage, up to the very top, was occupied by a most extraordinary and imposing sight; and as the clouds carried the whole of the children upwards, the curtain fell, and the piece concluded.

Madame Clairon.

The celebrated French actress Clairon, used to ascribe her growing prematurely old, to the influence which the distresses and griefs with which she was constantly overwhelmed, year after year, on the stage, had upon her constitution. We need not be surprised at this, if we can believe what Pliny tells us, that there was an actor in his time, who imitated the feelings of the gout so naturally, as at length to bring the disorder upon him.

Foote and his Wooden Leg.

While upon a party of pleasure along with the Duke of York and some other noblemen, Foote met with an accident both adverse and fortunate. He was thrown from his horse, and his leg broken, so that an amputation became necessary, which he endured with uncommon fortitude. In consequence of the accident, the duke obtained for him the patent for the Haymarket Theatre during life. Strange as it may appear, with the aid of a cork leg, he performed his former characters with no less agility and spirit than he had done before, and continued exhibiting his very laughable pieces, with his more laughable performances, to the most crowded houses.

Ancient Theatrical Gear.

When previous to the Reformation, theatrical entertainments were countenanced by the public authorities of Scotland, the magistrates of Edinburgh appear to have had a dramatic apparatus of their own, the use of which they lent to such strolling players as happened at any time to pay them a visit. The apparatus, as appears from the following extract from the City Records, was simple enough.

'12 Oct. 1554. Ye Provost, Baillies, and Councile, ordaines ye the saurer Robert Grahame, to content and pay to Walter Bynning, ye somme of V lib. for ye making of ye play grind, and poynting of ye hand senze, and ye playuaris facis, quhelk beand payit providand always yt ye sd Walter mak ye play geir under written, furth comand to ye Towre quhen yai haif ado yrwit, quhelkis he has now resaivit, viz VIII play battis, ane Kingis Crowne, ane myter, ane fulis hude, ane foxs, ane pair angel wingis, twa angel hair, ane chaplet of tryumphe. Records of the Town Council of Edinr vol i. fol. 33.'

Scottish Stage.

representations of the nature of mysteries and immoralities prevailed from a very early period in Scotland, as well as in other countries ; on a reformation taking place in the religion of the country, the spirit of fanaticism which it was tinged with, put an end to all these entertainments, and those of the stage were supposed to fall peculiarly under this description. For more than a century after drama continued an evil thing in the sight of the people, and every occasional attempt to draw their eyes to a juster appreciation of its merits, only roused the champions of religious orthodoxy to a more intolerant exertion of their influence over the minds of the multitude. In 1671 and 1672, the Duke of York (wards James II.) and his duchess, kept court at Holyrood House, his highness inclined, among other entertainments, those of the stage ; but though relished by many of the higher ranks, they brought him into disrepute with the people. The actors, who were of the Duke of York's company, and considered as belonging to his household, were not to have been the most eminent of the profession, if we give any degree of credit to the Duke's satirical account of this troop. It would seem that the best part of the company were sent to Oxford, as they were in use to do, for reformation at the annual public acts there. The Duke, with great humour, makes them thus allude to the University for the thinness of the company, while they insinuate that the Duke remained, and that the refuse only had to go to Edinburgh.

brethren have from Thames to Tweed departed,
Edinburgh gone, or coach'd or carted,
A bonny blue cap there they act all night
A Scotch half-crowns, In English three
Once light.
A nymph, to whom fat Sir John Falstaff's
An,

With her single person fills the scene ;
Her with long use and age decayed,
Here old woman, and rose there a maid.
A rusty door-keeper of former time,
A struts and swaggers in heroic rhyme.
But a copper lace to druggist suit,
Here's a hero made without dispute.
That which was a capon's tail before,
Becomes a plume for Indian Emperor.
Will his subjects to express the care
Of imitation, go like Indian, bare.'

DRYDEN'S MIS. vol. ii.

The first great innovation upon the prejudice of the Scottish people against the stage, effected through the *Gentle Shepherd* of Ramsay. When that pastoral comedy was acting, without any view to representation, the composers had committed to memory some of its most striking scenes, which they took pleasure in reciting among themselves. The master printer, Drummond, being his words ruined, through an act of great violence on the part of the magistrates of Edinburgh, and his men being thus thrown out

of employment, the idea happily struck them of attempting a public representation of the comedy, for their common benefit. The manager of a small theatre which had been erected in the Canongate, by a few individuals superior to the prejudices of the times, readily agreed to give them the use of his stage ; and the great body of the public, comprehending especially the middling and lower classes, hitherto the most adverse to theatrical representations, were induced, from compassion for the fate of Drummond and his men, the victims of power, to suspend their prejudices for a moment, and to regard the humble attempt with that silent acquiescence which, by leaving the young and gay-hearted to follow their inclinations, had all the effect of a more open encouragement. On the first performance of the opera, the house was crowded in every part ; and it was repeated several successive nights, to such numerous audiences, that tiers of benches were erected upon the stage, to accommodate the overflow. The distresses of the suffering printers were thus in a great measure relieved ; but a more general and lasting advantage derived from these representations was, the beginning of a cessation to that rooted antipathy which a religious people, still warm with convert zeal, had till now persisted in maintaining towards the entertainments of the stage.

The triumph of liberal opinions may be said to have been completed by the *Douglas* of Home, not only written by a member of the church, but witnessed by numbers of his most respected brethren. A memorable outcry was raised on the occasion ; but as it necessarily caused the people to consult their own reason the more, it had no other effect than to clear away more effectually the prejudices which had so long clouded their understandings.

Study your Neighbour's Part.

In the course of repeatedly reflecting on the part of Romeo, and desirous of attaining to as great perfection as possible in the representation of it, it occurred to Mr. Kemble, that in that passage where Romeo in his despair approaches the house of the Apothecary, there had prevailed a great misconception as to the right manner of delivering it. Romeo says :—

'And if a man did need a poison now,
Whose sale is present death in Mantua,
Here lives a caitiff wretch would sell it him ;

* * * *

As I remember, this should be the house,
Being holiday, the beggar's shop is shut.
What ho ! Apothecary !

As the passage had been always hitherto spoken, the player raised his voice in the 'what ho ! Apothecary !' to the pitch of 'milk below, maids !' Now, reasoned Mr. Kemble, could anything be more absurd ? A man with all the marks of deep despair is seen looking about for an apothecary's shop ; he is in search of some subtle poison, which it

is death in this Apothecary to sell; and yet, as if he wanted all the world to witness the purchase, he bawls out with Stentorian lungs, 'What ho! Apothecary!' Nothing, as Mr. Kemble thought, could be more out of character, and he accordingly resolved to go a different way to work. On his next representation of Romeo, when he came to the words, 'As I remember, this should be the house,' he lowered his voice to the meditative muttering of some midnight prowler; then in a side whisper, told us that 'Being holiday, the beggar's shop was shut,' and at length in a low sepulchral tone, uttered the magic words, 'What ho! Apothecary!'

Thus far all was well; but unfortunately for Mr. Kemble's new and rational improvement, Shakspeare happens to have thought differently on the subject; and no sooner had Romeo uttered in this low tone the words, 'What ho! Apothecary!' than Mr. Apothecary stepped forth and demanded,

Who calls so loud?

The audience, as may readily be supposed, were instantly struck by the strange incongruity, and burst into a general laugh. Mr. Kemble was so disconcerted, that he could scarcely proceed with his part, which he now learnt, by a mortifying exposure, could only be performed well by attending to the part which others have to play with him.

There seems reason, after all, to think that in this instance the actor was right in his idea of propriety, and the author wrong; nor would the play suffer by the slight alteration which Mr. Kemble's new acting would require.

Victim of Ridicule.

Mr. Delane, an actor of great merit, and a valuable member of society, had two peculiarities upon the stage, which Garrick took off, and rendered him so ridiculous, that he was constantly laughed at. Having generous, though weak feelings, Mr. Delane took to drinking, and in reality broke his heart.

Baddeley.

Mr. Baddeley, who died in 1764, is not less known for his benevolence than for his comic talents. By his will, he left his cottage at Hampton to the Theatrical Fund in trust, that they should elect four fund pensioners, who might not object to live sociably under the same roof; and, in order that the decayed actors who should be chosen by the committee as tenants of the house might not appear in the eyes of the neighbourhood like dependents on charity, he left a sum to be distributed by those tenants to the needy around them. He also left money for erecting a small summer-house for them, which was to be situated so as to command a view of the Temple of Shakspeare erected by Mr. Garrick. The summer-house was to be formed of part of the wood that belonged to old Drury Lane Theatre, the scene of Garrick's fame and excellence; and

the wood was bought on purpose for this object. He also bequeathed the interest of £100 Three per Cents to be annually expended in a twelfth cake, with wine and punch, to be distributed in the Green Room on Twelfth Night, to make the future sons and daughters of Thespis remember an old friend and member of the profession.

Mr. Powell.

Mr. Powell, so eminent for his tragic powers, may be literally said to have felt 'the ruling passion strong in death.' When he was on his death-bed, and Mrs. Powell had left the room, Mrs. Hannah More, who sat by his bedside, was alarmed by observing his cheek suddenly assume a lively colour. He at the same time threw himself into the proper attitude, and exclaimed,

'Is that a dagger that I see before me?'

A moment after this, as if sensible of his danger, he cried out, 'O God!' and instantly expired.

Licensing of Plays.

The justly celebrated Henry Fielding having suffered indignities from some persons in power, determined on resenting them, and amusing the public at the same time, at the expense of some persons of high rank, and of great influence in the political world. For this purpose, in 1736, he collected a company of performers, which, as the play-bills announced, were dropped from the clouds, who exhibited at the Haymarket Theatre, under the whimsical title of the Great Mogul's Company of Comedians. The piece he represented was called *Pasquin*, and was acted to crowded audiences for fifty successive nights.

The severity of Mr. Fielding's satire in this piece, as well as in some others of his dramatic productions, so galled the minister of the day, that he meditated a severe revenge on the stage, and carried it into effect. In the year 1737, he obtained an Act of Parliament, which forbade the representation of any performance not previously licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. This unpopular Act, which did not pass without much opposition, also took from the crown the power of licensing any more theatres, and inflicted heavy penalties on those who should hereafter perform in defiance of the statute.

Forgery of the Shakspeare MSS.

One of the most daring literary forgeries ever imposed on the public, was that of the Shakspeare MSS. by William Henry Ireland. This youth, whose talents, if properly directed, might have ensued him a rich harvest of renown, after succeeding in imposing on a host of literary cognoscenti various documents which he had fabricated at length became so

d as to write a new play, and attribute it to that bard whose

'Muse aspires

beyond the reach of Greece: with native fires

mounting aloft, he wings his daring flight, whilst Sophocles below stands trembling at his height.'

This play was called, *Vortigern and Zenobia*, and the idea of selecting it for a new play was suggested, as the youthful forger afterwards confessed, by his father having a share in the subject. The last tribunal—public, to which Mr. Ireland appealed, was decided against him. His play was represented at Drury Lane, to a crowded audience, on the 2nd of April, 1796. All the avenues leading to the theatre were filled at an early hour, and thousands were forced to return, as they could not gain admittance, into any part of the house. In the early scenes, the opposition was trivial; but it increased as the play proceeded, and in the fourth act, the opposition had increased to so great a height, that it was impossible to hear the performers; on which Mr. Kemble came forward and said, 'The fate of the piece depended on the opinion of the audience; but that a candid opinion alone could enable them to judge fairly of its merit. The storm, which was for a moment allayed by this address, soon burst forth with increased violence, and the tragedy was so fully condemned, as never to be repeated. [See *Anecdotes of Youth*.]

Studying Life.

The celebrated Ned Shuter delighted to exhibit his eccentricities among the lowest ranks in St. Giles's, where he has been known more than once to treat a dozen of the crew with drams and strong beer. His sobriety for such absurdities was, that in his opinion of the drama it was necessary that he should know life, from the prince to the peasant, in order to represent them as occasion required.

The Children of Thespis.

The heroes and heroines of the sock and buskin, are often called by the general and polite appellation of the 'Children of Thespis'; a few years ago, the term was equally applicable, when children from the nursery seemed alone to hear

the scenic triumph and the loud applause; the robe of purple, and the people's gaze.'

The first of these juvenile Roscins, was Master Betty, who made his debut before a crowded audience, at Covent Garden Theatre, on the 1st of December, 1804; and after performing a host of tragic characters at fifty, and at a hundred, guineas per night, retired from the stage (for some time at least) with an ample fortune, when he had barely entered his teens. [See *Anecdotes of Youth*.]

The success of Master Betty, if it did not raise juvenile emulation, at least excited the cupidty of parents, and a host of nursing Richards, and pigny Macbeths, were preparing to feed the public rage for infant actors, when the mania received a fatal check.

In November, 1805, a Miss Mudie, called 'The Theatrical Phenomenon,' a child apparently about eight years of age, but with a figure remarkably diminutive, even for her years, who had, in the preceding season, played the first-rate comic characters at Birmingham, Liverpool, Dublin, and other theatres, made her debut at Covent Garden, as Miss Peggy, in the *Country Girl*. She repeated the words correctly, and her performance, as an infant, was surprising; but as an infant, the illusion was completely lost. In the first scene, the sense of the house was good-naturedly expressed; for when Moody promised 'to send her back into the country,' the audience expressed their concurrence by loud applause.

In the succeeding scenes, when Miss Peggy came to be talked of as a *wife*, as a *mistress*, as an object of love and jealousy, the scene became so ridiculous, that loud hissing and laughing ensued. The little child was also contrasted with the fine person of Miss Brunton, now Countess of Craven, who, in the character of Alithea, wore a plume of three upright ostrich feathers on her head, constituting altogether a figure of nearly seven feet high. When Peggy was with her guardian, Mr. Murray, who was not very tall, he was obliged to stoop to lay his hand on her head; to bend himself double to kiss her; and where she had to lay hold of his neckcloth to coax and pat his cheek, he was obliged to go almost on all fours. In the third act, Miss Peggy is seen walking in the Park, dressed in boy's clothes, when instead of appearing a young man who ought to be 'shown the town,' she looked shorter than before, and even too little to be safely put into jacket and trowsers. Yet Mr. Brunton, as her lover Belville, pursues her, and is transported to find her under this disguise, while Mr. Murray, her pretended husband, is thrown into an agony of despair, at the idea of another man taking her by the hand.

The absurdity was too great to be endured; and there was a burst of censure from all parts of the house. At last Mr. Charles Kemble, as Hareourt, exclaimed, 'Let me introduce you, nephew; you should know each other; you are very like, and of the same age.' It was all over after this; for the whole effect was so out of nature, so truly ludicrous, that the audience soon decided against Miss Mudie, and endeavoured to stop the play. The child, who was certainly no infant in assurance, and whose energy was not in the least damped by the marked disapprobation of the house, now walked to the front of the stage, with great confidence, though not without some signs of indignation, and said, 'Ladies and gentlemen, I have done nothing to offend you, and as for those who are sent

here to hiss me, I will be much obliged to you to turn them out.'

This bold speech, from such a baby, astonished the audience; some laughed, some hissed, others called *off off*, and many applauded. A loud cry for the manager succeeded, when the first tragedian of his day, Mr. Kemble, appeared, to supplicate that the child might be allowed to finish the play; the audience, however, were inexorable, the part of Miss Peggy was transferred to a young lady whose age corresponded with the character, and Miss Mudie was withdrawn.

Drury Lane Theatre.

In the early part of the seventeenth century, there was a theatre in Drury Lane, which was sometimes called the Phoenix, and sometimes the Cock Pit. Mr. Malone says, it had originally been a Cock Pit, and was built or rebuilt not very long before the year 1617, in which year we learn, from Camden's *Annals of King James I.*, that it was pulled down by the mob, on the 4th of March, 1617. 'Theatrum Ludionum nuper erectum in Drury Lane à furente multitudine diruitur, et apparatus dilaceratur.' It was sometimes called the Phoenix, from that fabulous bird being its sign. How soon the demolished theatre was rebuilt, is uncertain; but the first play in print, expressly said to have been acted in Drury Lane, is *The Wedding*, by James Shirley, printed in 1629, from which time, until the silencing the theatre by the Puritans, a regular series of dramas acted there may be produced.

In 1658, Sir William Davenant took possession of it, and performed such pieces as the times would permit, until the Restoration, when regular dramas were resumed; but this house being found ill-adapted for the use to which it was appropriated, a more convenient one was erected. In January, 1671, it was entirely destroyed by fire. After this accident it was rebuilt, and opened in March, 1674; but the population of London, at this period, or the taste of the times, appearing insufficient to maintain two theatres, the two companies, in Lincoln's Inn and Drury Lane, united, and both the patents came into the hands of Mr. Rich, who having misconducted himself in the management, was deprived of it by the Lord Chamberlain in 1709; from which time the Drury Lane company ceased to act under the authority of either of the patents granted by King Charles II.

In the first year of the reign of George the First, a licence was granted to Sir Richard Steele for his life; and three years afterwards, to establish a company, which, under his own management and that of Wilks, Booth, and Cibber, continued to act with great success at Drury Lane, until the deaths of the two former, and the secession of the latter threw the property of the theatre, in the year 1733, into other hands. In 1747, the successful management of Messrs. Garrick and Lacy commenced, which continued until the year

1776, when Mr. Garrick sold his interest in the theatre for £35,000, and Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Linley, and Dr. Ford, became the new proprietors.

On the 4th of June, 1791, the old Drury Lane Theatre finally closed, it having been determined to take it down and rebuild a more commodious house on its site. Mr. Holland was appointed the architect; and he constructed it on an immense and magnificent plan, rendering it capable of holding 3611 persons, which would produce a sum of £826 6s. The new theatre was opened on the 21st of April, 1794, with the tragedy of *Macbeth*, and the farce of *The Virgin Unmasked*. Mr. Kemble spoke a prologue written by General Fitzpatrick; and Miss Faren, afterwards Countess of Derby, spoke an epilogue written by George Colman the Younger; in which the following bold defiance to an element which afterwards destroyed this magnificent building, was given.

'Our pile is rock, more durable than brass;
Our decorations, gossamer and gas;
Weighty, yet airy in effect our plan
Solid, tho' light, like a vain Alderman.
"Blow winds, come wreck;" in ages yet unborn,
"Our castle's strength shall laugh a siege to scorn."

The very ravages of fire we scout,
For we have wherewithal to put it out;
In ample reservoirs our firm reliance,
Whose streams set conflagrations at defiance.
Panic alone avoid, let none begin it;
Should the flames spread, sit still, there's nothing in it,
We'll undertake to drown you in half a minute.
Behold! obedient to the prompter's bell.
Our tide shall flow, and real waters swell;
No river of meand'ring pasteboard made,
No gentle tingling of a tin cascade!
No brook of broad cloth shall be set in motion;
No ships be wreck'd upon a wooden ocean.
But the pure element its course shall hold.
Rush on the scene, and o'er the stage be roll'd,
Consume the scenes, your safety still is certain,
Presto! for proof, let down the Iron Curtain.

The curtain was then drawn up, and showed a fine river on the stage, filled from the reservoir on the roof of the theatre; a bridge was thrown over it, and a man rowed a boat under the arch, the orchestra playing 'The Jolly Young Waterman.' An iron curtain was then lowered, which divided the stage from the audience, and several men came forward, and struck it with sledge hammers, to convince the audience that it was iron, and that in case of fire, the actors and the scenery only would be burnt. The concluding scene was a view of Shakspeare's monument under his mulberry tree, surrounded by a group of his own characters, with the tragic and comic muses.

On the 24th of February, 1809, this splendid theatre was entirely destroyed by fire; and in 1811, the present noble fabric was erected, and opened to the public. It is rather less than 'Old Drury,' but is calculated to hold 2000 persons.

Covent Garden Theatre.

In 1733, the Theatre Royal Covent Garden first erected; and Mr. Rich, whose company had been performing in the old building Portugal Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, removed to it. He continued to manage the theatre until his death in 1692, when the business devolved on his son-in-law, Mr. Rich. Seven years afterwards, Mr. Harris purchased the theatre from the executors of Mr. Rich, for the sum of £60,000; an enterprise which in a young man who had not then reached his one-and-twentieth year, was reckoned upon as bold and extraordinary. In the hands of this gentleman and those of his the principal proprietorship and management of Covent Garden Theatre have since continued.

One of those calamities which have so often befallen similar establishments, befell this theatre at the commencement of its winter season, 1808: for on the 26th of September, in that year, a fire broke out in the buildings, and was so fierce and rapid in its course, that in less than three hours the whole of the theatre was destroyed. The loss of property was of course immense; but the most melancholy part of the catastrophe, was the destruction of about twenty lives, by the unexpected fall of the Apollo Room, near the Piazza.

Measures were immediately concerted for erecting a new theatre, under the direction of Robert Smirke, the architect; the first stone of which was laid by his present nephew, the Prince of Wales, on the 31st of May in 1809, as Grand Master of the Free Masons of Great Britain, attended by the Duke of Devonshire in ample form.

On the 18th of September, 1809, the New Theatre Royal Covent Garden was opened, having arisen from the ground, as it were by magic, like the palace of Aladdin, in the short space of nine months.

A singular instance of the change that takes place in theatrical property, it may be mentioned, that the Rose Theatre in the Haymarket, built by Philip Henslowe, in 1577, only cost the sum of £103 2s. 7d. The reconstruction of Covent Garden Theatre cost one hundred and fifty thousand

Whig,' as a compliment to a celebrated beauty, Lady Sunderland, second daughter of the Duke of Marlborough, the toast and pride of that party. On the 9th of April, 1705, it was opened with an Italian opera, but which did not meet with the success expected from it. In a few months, it was let to Mr. Owen M'Swiny, a mere adventurer, without property, who entered upon his undertaking in 1706, at the rate of five pounds for every acting day, but not to exceed £700 in the year.

In 1720, a fund of £50,000, of which King George the First contributed £1000, was raised by subscription for the regular support of this theatre, which was put under the direction of a governor and directors, and called the Academy of Music. From this period, the Opera continued to flourish under the direction of various managers, until the year 1789, when it and several houses were destroyed by fire. It was immediately rebuilt on a scale of great magnificence, and was, in 1816, sold by public auction for the sum of £71,150.

This theatre consists of four principal tiers of boxes, and in each tier are forty-three boxes, making altogether one hundred and seventy-two, of which sixty-eight are private and distinct property till 1825. The subscription for the seasons 1814-1815, 1815-1816, was fixed at 310 guineas for each of the subscription boxes in the three lower tiers, which are eighty in number. In the second tier up stairs, there are twenty-four reserved for the establishment, which have been let at £200. There are also twenty-five boxes in the tier adjoining the gallery, which have been let at £100 each, the season. The money received for the admission to the pit and gallery, and the money arising from letting the theatre, has always been considerable. The exterior of the King's Theatre, which was long in an unfinished state, has recently been completed in a very splendid manner.

Haymarket Theatre.

This house, so long and so favourably known to the public by the appellation of 'The Little Theatre in the Haymarket,' was built in 1720, by a Mr. Potter, merely on speculation, and relying on its being occasionally hired for dramatic exhibitions. It was for some years occupied in the summer by virtue of licences from the Lord Chamberlain, until July, 1766, when it was advanced to the dignity of a Theatre Royal. The patent was granted to Mr. Foote, who immediately pulled the old house down, and rebuilt it in the course of the year; when he opened it in May, 1767. The theatre continued under the successful management of Mr. Foote, until 1779, when he transferred it to George Colman the Elder, who in the first season introduced to a London audience four performers of distinguished merit, Miss Farren, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Edwin, and Young Baumbaster.

King's Theatre, Haymarket.

The theatre in the Haymarket was originally built by means of a subscription of thirty guineas of quality, of £100 each, raised by the influence and exertions of Sir John Vanbrugh. On the first stone of this theatre was inscribed the word, 'Little'

On the death of his father in 1794, George Colman the Younger succeeded to the patent, by whom, in conjunction with other proprietors, it continued to be managed until very recently. The theatre erected by Foote has been taken down, and a new one more splendid and convenient erected nearly on the same site.

The Lyceum.

It has often been said, and there is perhaps some truth in the assertion, that the English are not a musical people; for although the Italian Opera is popular among the nobility, and the operatic performances at the winter theatres are as attractive as any other species of drama, yet the national music is neglected, and a theatre erected for the patriotic purpose of performing English operas only, has not met with that patronage which such an object, or the spirited conduct of its manager, has deserved.

The Lyceum Theatre, or English Opera House, was opened on the 26th of June, 1809, under a licence granted by the Lord Chamberlain to Mr. Samuel James Arnold. The performances were at first exclusively English operas; but in order to suit the public taste, they have since been varied. Reduced to a very brief season by the winter theatres continuing open nearly seven months in the year, the manager has difficulties to encounter, with which it requires no ordinary degree of talent and exertion to contend.

Minor Theatres.

Among those places of dramatic amusement which in contradistinction to the theatres royal, are termed minor theatres, the *Surrey* is entitled to the first rank from its size, the nature of its performances, and the talents of its manager, Mr. Thomas Dibdin. It was formerly called 'The Royal Circus,' and was erected about the year 1779, in favour of a Mr. Hughes, a riding master, who, in conjunction with the elder Charles Dibdin, conducted it for some time with considerable success, as a place for the exhibition of ballets, pantomimes, and horsemanship. In 1805, this theatre was destroyed by fire; but has been rebuilt in a tasteful manner. It is now devoted to burlettas and melodramas, which approach the precincts of tragedy, comedy, and farce, as near as the law will allow.

Astley's Theatre, one of the most popular of the minor theatres, is principally devoted to equestrian melodramas, horsemanship, and other gymnastic exercises.

The *Adelphi Theatre*, which was formerly known by the modest title of the *Sans Pareil* is appropriated to entertainments similar to those at the *Surrey*.

The *Royalty Theatre*, in Wellclose-square, was built in 1787, by Mr. John Palmer, under the idea that the justices of the Tower Ham-

lets were empowered by the royalty of that fortress, to licence the performance of plays; it proved, however, to be very different, for after the first night, when it opened with the comedy of *As You Like It*, and *Miss in her Teens*, were performed for a public charity, the theatre immediately closed, and the entertainments afterwards exhibited were burlettas, dances, and pantomimes. The proprietors of the Theatres Royal opposed this theatre with all their force; and even when it was reopened for musical and pantomimical performances, an information was laid against Mr. Delpini, for only crying out 'Roast Beef,' whilst acting the part of the Clown, in a pantomime; and two magistrates were fined £100 each, and rendered incapable of acting in the commission of the peace, for having discharged Mr. Bannister when informed against as a *vagabond*.

Sadler's Wells Theatre was for many years one of those places of amusement which no countryman who came to London would omit to visit. The principal source of attraction was the 'real water,' which generally concluded the end of the performances. The public taste seems, in this respect, to have undergone some change, as the aquatic scene are now seldom exhibited. Burlettas and pantomimes now predominate.

The *Olympic Theatre* was built by Mr. Astley, proprietor of the Amphitheatre; and since rebuilt by Mr. Elliston, who conducted it until he became the lessee of Drury Lane Theatre. Broad farcical burlettas and extravaganzas, are the usual entertainments at this theatre.

The *Coburg Theatre*, erected in 1817, is one of the most elegant in London; here spectacle and show reign triumphant.

The *West London Theatre*, called also the *Tottenham*, and the *Regency Theatre*, is the smallest of those places devoted to the drama, and being of too humble pretensions to excite jealousy, is permitted to play tragedy, comedy, or farce, in as legitimate a manner as the company is capable of doing.

Sheridan.

In no country has comedy had so ample field as in Great Britain, owing to the freedom of its government, and the extent and variety of its intercourse with foreign nations. Humour, as Dr. Blair observes, is, in a great measure, the peculiar province of the English theatre; hence, no comedy has presented such a strength and variety of character to the English. Though England can boast a host of comic writers, excellent in the respective lines they have adopted, yet to combine the strongest and most brilliant wit, with the chastest propriety; to display the justest and most characterizing humour, without descending into grossness of idea or expression; to give the comic force of the English character, and steer clear of its incidental impropriety, was reserved for Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

The first dramatic effort of Mr. Sheridan

the comedy of *The Rivals*, which was produced when the author was only twenty-years of age. On the first night's performance, it met with considerable disapprobation, on account of the imperfect conception of the character of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, by Lee Lewis, who was, however, an excellent actor. It was soon after brought forward to great success, and is one of the few modern comedies that still keep possession of the stage. Mr. Lynch, who succeeded to the character of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, played it much to the satisfaction of the author, that he wrote a farce for his benefit, entitled *St. Nick's Day*.

The opera of *The Duenna* was Mr. Sheridan's third dramatic effort; an opera which, though less general and comprehensive in its plan than the *Beggar's Opera*, is superior to it in brilliant wit, in distinctiveness, and in disposition of characters, and in appositeness of sentiment and language.

Sheridan afterwards converted Sir Vanbrugh's *Relapse*, into a pleasing comedy, called the *Trip to Scarborough*; in 1777 produced his masterpiece of the *School for Scandal*, which of all his plays is the most popular. The copy of the play was lost, after the first night's representation, and all the performers in it were engaged together early the next day, in consequence of the assistance of their parts, to prepare the prompter's book.

Camp, a farce, and *The Critic, or a Day's Rehearsal*, a burlesque too well known and too much admired to require repetition; and such were the vagaries of his genius, that Mr. Sheridan is said not to have written the pantomime of *Rob Crusoe*, but also on one night, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the maldie, to have personated Harlequin himself.

In all the dramatic productions of Mr. Sheridan, the play of *Pizarro*, altered from the French, was the most lucrative; the author received no less a sum than three thousand pounds for it! It is said, but the report has any better authority than the London Room Gossip seems questionable, that the last two scenes were not written when the curtain drew up for the commencement, but that Mr. Sheridan actually wrote them during the progress of the earlier part of the play.

The Colmans.

Modern drama has been largely indebted to the two Colmans, father and son. George Colman was manager of the Covent Garden Theatre for seven years; and of the Haymarket Theatre in the Haymarket for a period of ten years, during which period he produced several comedies of sterling merit. He has been censured for not having written Inchbald's comedy of *I'll tell you* the first sent to him; the fact is, he admired modest merit, and seldom

attended to the five act productions of anonymous writers, which generally proved the vain attempts of soaring authors; but delighted in encouraging young beginners, who, like himself, began with pieces of one and two acts.

George Colman the younger, son of the preceding, was intended for the bar; but being a 'chip of the old block,' as his father announced him in a prologue to his first play, he quitted the law for the muses. As a dramatist, he has been nearly as prolific, and quite as successful as his father. Several of his comedies and farces are very popular. On the death of his father, his majesty transferred the patent of the Haymarket Theatre to him, and he discharged the duties of manager with zeal and alacrity towards the public, and liberality towards authors and actors.

The Dibbins.

Genius is very rarely hereditary; in the case of the Colmans and the Dibbins, it may however be said to have been so. Charles Dibdin, to whom the army, the navy, and the whole nation were so deeply indebted for his Tyrtæan strains, as well as for his multifarious compositions, calculated to inspire a love of country, and a zeal to protect it in a time of imminent danger, exhibited a remarkable precocity of intellect. At sixteen years of age, he brought out an opera at Covent Garden Theatre, called *The Shepherd's Wedding*, written and composed by himself. Forty-six other dramas of various descriptions, with about a dozen other literary productions, and several hundred songs, many of which are the best in the English language, record the talents of Mr. Dibdin, and the disgraceful neglect with which he was treated by his ungrateful country; for although he enjoyed a pension from government of £200 a year for a few years, yet on a change of administration, this was taken from him, and the man who deserved a civic crown, was left, admired it is true, but neglected in his old age.

Thomas Dibdin, son of the preceding, and present proprietor of the Surrey Theatre, has not inaptly been called the *Lopez de Vega* of the age. He is said to have written upwards of one hundred and forty pieces, all of which have been performed with success at the Metropolitan Theatres; several of these are still favourites at the Theatres Royal, and the others have kept their station as long on the minor stages as the thirst for novelty always manifested at these establishments would permit. The *Heart of Mid-Lothian*, modestly called a melodrama, but which possesses all the pathos and deep-wrought interest of tragedy, was acted at the Surrey Theatre upwards of a hundred nights; and a burlesque, entitled *Don Giovanni*, was represented double that number of times. Mr. T. Dibdin is remarkable for the rapidity with which he writes. The *Heart of Mid-Lothian* was written and produced in ten days; and

it is said that *Don Giovanni* did not cost the author so many hours, having been written one night after leaving the King's Theatre, when the serious opera of that name was performed, and put in rehearsal the following day.

Mr. Charles Dibdin, the second son of the British Lyric Poet of the same name, is second only to his brother in genius and industry. He has written several pieces for the winter theatres, and was manager of Sadler's Wells for many years, during which period he produced some novelty every week.

Cooke.

Few actors were more popular in their day, than George Frederic Cooke, whose very errors excited an additional interest to behold him in his favourite characters. Mr. Cooke was an instance of the advantage of an actor undergoing stage discipline in the country, before he assumes the highest walk of the drama on the Metropolitan boards. He played in London, was unnoticed, and then went the round of the country theatres. Twenty years afterwards, he returned to town, a theatrical star of the first magnitude.

Mr. Cooke used to say, that the highest compliment he ever received on the stage, was at York, when he portrayed the base duplicity of Iago, so forcibly, that he was hissed amidst cries of 'What a villain!' Criticism might, perhaps, doubt that this was a just conception of the character, for if the villainy of Iago was so obvious, Othello must have been the weakest of men to be deceived by him, and yet Shakspeare describes him as 'a man not easily jealous, but being wrought upon.' Be this as it may, Cooke's Iago was always considered as an unrivalled performance.

John Philip Kemble.

Although Mr. Kemble, as a tragedian, stood long in the highest rank of his profession, and in classical characters was 'the noblest Roman of them all,' yet there was another point of view in which he rendered more essential service to the stage, than he did even by his histrionic talents, namely, the general improvement of the English theatre in propriety of costume. In the time of Garrick, Macbeth appeared in a court dress, black silk stockings, and a tye wig; but when Mr. Kemble made his first appearance in the character, he made the noble Thane dress more in the costume of his country. Other alterations were also made in this play; the high-crowned hats and laced aprons of the witches, were properly discarded; they were represented as preternatural beings, adopting no human garb, and distinguished only by the fullness of their purposes, and the fatality of their delusions.

Extensive as the range of characters was in which Mr. Kemble shone for many years

on the stage, yet they were not sufficient for his ambition. He once had it in contemplation to play Macbeth, in the *Beggar's Opera*, and actually got Inledon to give him some instructions in singing; and he played Charles Surface in the *School for Scandal*, in defiance of the advice of his best friends, until rallied out of it by one of them, who observed to him, 'Mr. Kemble, you have long given us Charles's martyrdom; when shall we have his restoration?'

Mr. Kean.

'The drama's days seem'd almost on the wane,
When Kean burst forth, and made them bright again.'

Frequent and various have been the revolutions in the dramatic world during the last half century. Scarcely twelve years have elapsed since the London theatres were sequestered in the sunshine of popular favour, supported and adorned by men of real genius and first-rate talent, but from the year 1811 until the spring of 1814, when Mr. Kean added another bright star to the dramatic hemisphere, the stage was deteriorating, and ruin, inevitable ruin, seemed rapidly approaching. It was at this period that Mr. Kean burst upon the public, and was not only the means of preserving one of the winter theatres, but of restoring it to the proud eminence which it had so justly enjoyed in the days of his great predecessor.

It is a singular fact that while Mr. Kean's splendid talents were buried in the country, he was engaged for the Olympic Theatre, by Mr. Elliston, at a very trifling salary; that gentleman not opening his theatre at that time, left Mr. Kean still at the provincial theatres, thus casting away 'a pearl more than all his tribe;' that pearl has now literally become not only 'a pearl of great price,' but of great value to Mr. Elliston.

Mr. Kean's first appearance at Drury Lane Theatre was in the character of Shylock, a performance of which a poetical critic serves thus elegantly:—

'They who have seen him when with
 vengeance ripe
He views Antonio, as he whets his knife
Must ever feel, when thinking of that part
The life blood stagnate chilly round
 heart;
There was a murderous smile upon
 cheek,
And from his eye some devil seem'd
 speak;
In triumph there, demoniac-like he stood
As tho' his soul could drink his victim's
 blood.'

Mr. Kean has since played the principal characters in nearly all the tragedies, and keeps possession of the stage, as well as in other plays, but his Othello, Richard Third, and Sir Giles Overreach, are held to be his most finished performances. Although

acknowledged that Mr. Kean has a most excessive countenance, and 'an eye like a hawk's to threaten and command,' yet objections have been made to his figure and voice. 'To such it may be only necessary to adopt the language of Churchill, that—

—When perfections of the mind
break forth,
Amour's chaste sallies, judgment's solid worth;
When the pure genuine flame, by Nature caught,
Rings into sense, and every action's thought,
Fore such merit all objections fly;
Richard's genteel, and Kean is six feet high.'

splendid talents Mr. Kean adds private and benevolence; he has often been seen to leave town and go, at his own expense, a distance of fifty or a hundred miles, only for the benefit of some less fortunate; and in his country excursions has been remarkable for his liberality and beneficence. On a summer tour in 1818 he met with an old theatrical acquaintance in very distressed circumstances. The child of this person played the youngest prince to King Richard the First, and *after it had been smothered*, by the bloody Gloucester, he took an opportunity to slip ten guineas into its hand as a present for the father.

Mrs. Siddons.

'I'd for the tragic scene, to grace the stage,
Rival excellence of love and rage,
Press of each soft art, with matchless skill
Turn and wind the passions as she will;
Selt the heart with sympathetic woe,
Teach the sigh, and teach the tear to flow;
On frenzy's wild distracted glare,
Freeze the soul with horror and despair:
Just desert enroll'd in endless fame,
Rival of worth superior, Siddons came.'

Though some difference of opinion exists

as to the relative merits of male tragedians, yet, by common consent, Mrs. Siddons is allowed to be the greatest actress that ever trod the British stage. This lady, who is a sister of Mr. Kemble, first became a candidate for public favour as a singer, but she soon abandoned the operatic line for the most sublime department of the drama, tragedy. It was on the 12th of October, 1782, that Mrs. Siddons first appeared at Drury Lane Theatre, in the character of Isabella. The excellence of her performance was universally acknowledged and applauded, but the surest test of its merit was in the sympathy of the audience, which was not only evinced by tears, but such was the 'cunning of the scene' that several ladies actually fainted. Her fame was at once established as the first tragedian in Europe, and the numerous characters which she successively added to that of Isabella, fully justified the first decision of the public. Testimonials of her transcendent talents were poured in from all quarters, and the gentlemen of the bar subscribed a purse of one hundred guineas, which was presented by Mr. (afterwards Sir Arthur) Pigott and Mr. Fielding, accompanied by a very polite letter, expressing their high admiration of her talents.

From the period of Mrs. Siddons's first appearance to her quitting the stage, she had 'no rival near her throne,' nor did she wait till her powers were impaired, for though advanced in years, retired in the full blaze of popularity.

Not many years before her retirement this celebrated actress went down to Bath, to play a few of her favourite characters. One morning, coming from rehearsal, she called in at a shop to purchase some articles of dress. Wholly absorbed in the part she was to perform, whilst the shopman was displaying his muslins, &c., Mrs. S. took one in her hand, and fixing her eyes full on the man, exclaimed, in a solemn voice, 'Did ye say, sir, this would wash?' The poor fellow, in great alarm, began to think the intellects of his customer were not right; but Mrs. Siddons, recalled to recollection by his astonishment, with a smile apologized for her absence of mind, and repeated the question in a voice better suited to the occasion.



ANECDOTES OF INDUSTRY.

—'INDUSTRY! rough power!
Whom labour still attends, and sweat, and pain :
Yet the kind source of every gentle art,
And all the soft civility of life.'—THOMSON.

Historical Retrospect.

THE eloquent Dr. Barrow has, in one of his sermons, given the following admirable summary of what may be called the History of Industry :

'To industrious study is to be ascribed the invention and perfection of all those arts whereby human life is civilized, and the world cultivated with numberless accommodations, ornaments, and beauties. All the comely, the stately, the pleasant, and useful works, which we view with delight, or enjoy with comfort, industry did contrive them, industry did frame them.

'Industry reared those magnificent fabrics, and those commodious houses; it formed those goodly pictures and statues; it raised those convenient causeys, those bridges, those aqueducts; it planted those fine gardens with various flowers and fruits; it clothed those pleasant fields with corn and grass; it built those ships whereby we plough the seas, reaping the commodities of foreign regions. It hath subjected all creatures to our command and service, enabling us to subdue the fiercest, to catch the wildest, to render the gentler sort most tractable and useful to us. It taught us from the wool of the sheep, from the hair of the goat, from the labour of the silkworm, to weave our clothes to keep us warm, to make us fine and gay. It helpeth us from the inmost bowels of the earth to fetch divers needful tools and utensils.

'It collected mankind into cities, and compacted them into orderly societies; and devised wholesome laws, under shelter whereof we enjoy safety and peace, wealth and plenty, mutual succour and defence, sweet conversation and beneficial commerce.

'It, by meditation, did invent all those sciences whereby our minds are enriched and ennobled, our manners are refined and polished, our curiosity is satisfied, our life is benefited.

'What is there which we admire, or wherein we delight, that pleaseth our mind, or gratifieth our sense, for which we are not beholden to industry?

'Doth any country flourish in wealth, in grandeur, in prosperity? It must be imputed to industry; to the industry of its governors, settling good order; to the industry of its people, following profitable occupations; so did Cato in that notable oration of his, in Salust, tell the Roman senate that it was not by the force of their arms, but by the industry of their ancestors, that commonwealth did arise to such a pitch of greatness. When sloth creepeth in, then all things corrupt and decay: then the public state doth sink into disorder, penury, and a disgraceful condition.'

Royal Gardener.

When Lysander, the Lacedemonian general, brought magnificent presents to Cyrus, the younger son of Darius, who piqued himself more on his integrity and politeness than on his rank and birth, the prince conducted his illustrious guest through his gardens, and pointed out to him their varied beauties. Lysander, struck with so fine a prospect, praised the manner in which the grounds were laid out, the neatness of the walks, the abundance of fruits planted with an art which knew how to combine the useful with the agreeable; the beauty of the parterres and the glowing variety of flowers, exhaled odours universally throughout the delightful scene. 'Everything charms and transports me in this place,' said Lysander to Cyrus; 'but what strikes me most is the exquisite taste and elegant industry of the person who drew the plan of these gardens, and gave to the fine order, wonderful disposition, and happiness of arrangement, which I cannot sufficiently admire.' Cyrus replied, 'It was that who drew the plan, and entirely marked out; and many of the trees which you see were planted by my own hands.' 'What exclaimed Lysander, with surprise, and viewing Cyrus from head to foot, 'is it possible that with those purple robes and splendid vestments, those strings of jewels and bracelets of gold, those buskins so richly embroidered; is it possible that you could play the

ner, and employ your royal hands in ing trees?' 'Does that surprisc you?' Cyrus; 'I assure you, that when my h permits, I never sit down to table with- iving fatigued myself, either in military se, rural labour, or some other toilsome yment, to which I apply myself with re.' Lysander, still more amazed, d Cyrus by the hand, and said, 'You uly happy, and deserve your high for- since you unite with it virtue.'

The Crusades.

frantic expeditions undertaken in the ages, by innumerable legions of war- gimus, for the recovery of the Holy rom the Saracens, though they depol- and impoverished the western coun- Europe, were nevertheless productive e beneficial effects. The few warriors rived the fatigues, the diseases, and ighter of the expeditions, returned to tive countries with their minds some- panded by their intercourse with na- ore advanced in civilization than them- and they were in some degree cured gnorant pride which makes barbarians themselves the wisest and the best pon the face of the earth. They had l a taste for many comforts and ele- of life which they had never known among which, the oriental articles of stones, silk, and especially spicery of , appar to have been most in request. ecimens of those and other foreign which they carried home, created a obtaining greater quantities of them eir countrymen, and stimulated their industry to cultivate or manufacture imodity which they might give in ex- or the new objects of desire. Thus ink hitherto in listless indolence, or ed from it when hunger urged them se, or their chiefs led them to battle, INDUSTRY, the only efficient and source of all other acquisitions, ional prosperity.

Peter the Great.

ortal Peter! first of monarchs.'

THOMSON.

the custom of Peter the Great to different workshops and manufac- only to encourage them, but also what other useful establishments formed in his dominions. Among he visited frequently were the üller, at Istia, ninety wersts from The Czar once passed a whole e, during which time, after giving on to the affairs of state, which he cted, he amused himself with see- amining everything in the most nner, and even employed himself the business of a blacksmith. He

succeeded so well that on one of the last days of his remaining there he forged eighteen poods of iron, and put his own particular mark on each bar. The boyars and other noblemen of his suite were employed in blowing the bellows, stirring the fire, carrying coals, and performing the other duties of a blacksmith's assistant. When Peter had finished, he went to the proprietor, praised his manufactory, and asked him how much he gave his workmen per pood. 'Thrice copecks, or an altina,' answered Müller. 'Very well,' replied the Czar: 'I have then earned eighteen altinas.' Müller fetched eighteen ducats, offered them to Peter, and told him that he could not give a workman like his majesty less per pood. Peter refused. 'Keep your ducats,' said he; 'I have not wrought better than any other man; give me what you would give to another; I want to buy a pair of shoes, of which I am in great need.' At the same time he showed him his shoes, which had been once mended, and were again full of holes. Peter accepted the eighteen altinas, and bought himself a pair of new shoes, which he used to show with much pleasure, saying, 'These I earned with the sweat of my brow.'

One of the bars of iron forged by Peter the Great, and authenticated by his mark, is still to be seen at Istia, in the forge of Müller. Another similar bar is preserved in the cabinet of curiosities at St. Petersburg.

Our poet, Thomson, in speaking of Peter, makes the following beautiful comparison between him and those ancient heroes, who imagined that greatness was only to be acquired by deeds of war, or schemes of subtle policy.

'Ye shades of ancient heroes, ye who toil'd
Thro' long successive ages to build up
A lab'ring plan of state, behold at once
The wonder done! behold the matchless
prince!

Who left his native throne, where reign'd till
then

A mighty shadow of unreal power;
Who greatly spurn'd the slothful pomp of
courts,

And roaming every land, in every port
His sceptre laid aside, with glorious hand
Unwearied plying the mechanic tool,
Gathered the seeds of trade, of useful arts,
Of civil wisdom, and of martial skill,
Charg'd with the stores of Europe, home he
goes.

Then cities rise amid th' illumin'd waste;
O'er joyless deserts smiles the rural reign;
Far distant flood to flood is social join'd,
Th' astonish'd Euxine hears the Baltic roar,
Proud navies ride on seas that never foam'd
With daring keel before.

* * * *

* * His country glows around,
Taught by the royal hand that rous'd the whole
One scene of arts, of arms, of rising trade,
For what his wisdom plann'd and power en-
forced,
More potent still *his great example* showed.'

Perseverance Illustrated.

King Robert Bruce, the restorer of the Scottish monarchy, being out one day reconnoitring the enemy, lay at night in a barn belonging to a loyal cottager. In the morning still reclining his head on the pillow of straw, he beheld a spider climbing up a beam of the roof. The insect fell to the ground; but immediately made a second essay to ascend. This attracted the notice of the hero, who, with regret, saw the spider fall a second time from the same eminence. It made a third unsuccessful attempt. Not without a mixture of concern and curiosity, the monarch twelve times beheld the insect baffled in its aim; but the thirteenth essay was crowned with success: it gained the summit of the barn; when the king, starting from his couch, exclaimed, 'This despicable insect has taught me perseverance! I will follow its example; have I not been twelve times defeated by the enemy's superior force? on one fight more hangs the independence of my country.' In a few days his anticipations were fully realized, by the glorious result to Scotland of the battle of Bannockburn.

Punctuality.

The most industrious dispositions often prove of little avail, for the want of a habit of very easy acquirement—punctuality, the jewel on which the whole machinery of successful industry may be said to turn.

When Lord Nelson was leaving London, on his last, but glorious, expedition against the enemy, a quantity of cabin furniture was ordered to be sent on board his ship. He had a farewell dinner-party at his house; and the upholsterer having waited upon his lordship, with an account of the completion of the goods, was brought into the eating-room, in a corner of which his lordship spoke with him. The upholsterer stated to his noble employer, that everything was finished, and packed, and would go in the waggon, from a certain inn, at *six o'clock*. 'And you go to the inn, Mr. A., and see them off?' 'I shall, my lord; I shall be there *punctually at six*.' 'A quarter before six, Mr. A.; (returned Lord Nelson) be there *a quarter before six*. To that *quarter of an hour* I owe everything in life.'

His late majesty, George the Third, once ordered Mr. S., a tradesman of some eminence in London, to wait upon him at Windsor Castle, at eight o'clock in the morning of a day appointed. Mr. S. was half an hour behind the time; and upon being announced, his majesty said, 'Desire him to come at eight o'clock to-morrow morning.' Mr. S. appeared the next day after the time, and received the same command. On the third morning he contrived to be punctual. Upon his entrance the king said, 'Oh! the *great* Mr. S.! What sleep do you take, Mr. S.?' 'Why, please your majesty, I am a man of regular habits;

I usually take eight hours.' 'Eight hours,' said the king, 'that's too much, too much—six hours' sleep is enough for a man, seven for a woman, and eight for a fool, Mr. S., eight for a fool.'

Mr. Scott, of Exeter, travelled on business till about eighty years of age. He was one of the most celebrated characters in the kingdom for punctuality, and by his methodical conduct, joined to uniform diligence, he gradually amassed a large fortune. For a long series of years, the proprietor of every inn he frequented in Devon and Cornwall knew the day, and the very hour, he would arrive. A short time before he died, a gentleman on a journey in Cornwall stopped at a small inn at Port Isaac to dine. The waiter presented him with a bill of fare, which he did not approve of; but observing a fine day, and, 'I'll have that,' said the traveller. 'You cannot, sir,' said the landlord, 'it is not Mr. Scott, of Exeter.' 'I know Mr. Scott very well,' rejoined the gentleman; 'he is in your house.' 'True, sir,' said the landlord, 'but *six months ago, when he was here last*, he ordered a duck to be ready for him *to-day, precisely at two o'clock*;' and, to the astonishment of the traveller, he saw the gentleman on his Rosinante jogging into the inn yard about five minutes before the appointed time.

Male and Female Employment.

It has ever been the praise of England, that as the weaker sex are excluded, more strength is perhaps than in most other European countries from all the walks of profit or honour, amends is made to them by their being excluded from those more laborious offices, where they are neither fitted to the weakness of their frame, nor the delicacy of their habits and manners. This state of society has been to some degree attempted to be disturbed: among the premiums of the Bath Agricultural Society in 1805, there is one for 'a man ploughing.' What might be the motive of this singular attempt to give a new direction to the industry of one half the species, is not easy to determine; for notwithstanding the consumption of human lives by our wars and armies, and our devouring manufactures, there are still men sufficient left for the purposes of agriculture.

It was esteemed one of the most unusual signs of the exhausted and miserable state to which France was reduced in the days of Louis XIV. that in many provinces they had only women left for the office of husbandry; and in all ages and countries have only women to till the ground, or to be in the fruits of the earth, has been thought to present a striking picture of desolation. A country is poor, whatever else is plenty, where men are scarce. This scarcity does not exist in England; and the evil is, that men have usurped the departments of women. If we ask where are the

es that ought to be toiling in the winter's and summer's sun, we shall find that of them are stationed in warm carpeted s, handing tea to a circle of idle listless s and gentlemen; others are lifting up down their long legs, and painfully trying to commodate their pace to the short trip delicate young lady, who walks before or the slow pace of an infirm old one; are carrying out lapdogs to air; some white sleeves and aprons making cheese; and hundreds are stationed the livelies behind counters, sorting thread, and iring lace and ribbons. Let, then, the its' halls give up the idle that are in and the pastrycooks' and haberdashers' the idle that are in them, and there will sufficiency of stout recruits for the 1, without taking the women from their piate employments. Indeed they cantend to both: and if the wives are to be field, their husbands must, in return, the linen, rock the cradle, and dress mer.

the consequences of such an ex- of employment, we have an admirable in an old Scotch ballad, called 'The of Auchtermuchty.'

n Auchtermuchty dwelt a man,
An husband, as I heard it tawld,
ha weel could tippie out a can,
And neither luvit hunger nor cauld;
id ance it fell upon a day,
He yokit his pleuch upon the plain,
t short the storm would let him stay,
Sair blew the day with wind and rain.'

ening his oxen from the plough, he home; and envying the snug warmth his wife enjoys by the fireside, he hat she shall to-morrow go out to the nd he will attend to the domestic

The good dame at once consents, on in that it shall be a binding bargain to e labours of the field day about. The of the first day's trial is told with umour. After the wife has gone to gh, the husband drives out the geese, number, to feed; the fox comes past, ties off five of them; on hearing their : runs out, when taking advantage of nce, the calves break loose, and save trouble of milking the cows. On his he sits down to spin; but stooping o near the grate, the lint takes flame, fire to the chimney, which he has no ficulty in quenching. He then tries n; but after toiling at it for an hour, ow a crap of butter he gat;' on his ing the butter-making in despair, the es in, and is beginning to lap up the ed milk, when seizing the churn- drive it away, he kills, by mistake, goslings which the fox had left. It is e to go and 'take up the bairns;' such a scene awaits him, that

'up he gat on a know-head,
ier to cry, on her to shout;
ard him, and she heard him not,
stoutly steered the stots about.

She drove the day unto the night;
She loos'd the pleuch, and syne came hame
She fand all wrang that suld been right,
I trew the mon thocht meikle shame.

'Quoth he, my office I forsake,
For all the haile days of my life;
For I wuld put a house to wreck,
Had I been twenty days gude wife.
Quoth she, weel might ye bruik your place,
For truly I sall ne'er accept it;
Quoth he, feynd fa' the lyar's face,
But yet ye may be blyth to get it.

'Then up slie gat a meikle mug,
And the gude mon made to the door;
Quoth he, dame I sall hald my tung,
For an we fecht I'll get the war.
Quoth he, when I forsook my pleuch,
I trow I but forsook my skill;
Then I will to my pleuch again,
For I and this house will never do weel.'

The poet of nature, Thomson, has described in glowing colours the hay-making lass, placed by the side of her lover, with all

'Her kindled graces burning o'er her cheek.'

But it is a question if he would have been equally pleased with the idea of a sturdy lass bending over a plough, and whistling to the horse. But, indeed, before the effect can well be ascertained, it should be known with more accuracy what is intended; for it does not appear, whether the Bath agriculturists intended the female to *guide the plough*, or to be *yoked to it*. The latter, though somewhat novel, would not be altogether unprecedented, since we are informed by a late writer, Mr. Barrow, that in China, a country that does not yield in politeness even to Bath, it is not uncommon to see a husbandman plough with a woman and an ass yoked together. This is an age of improvements; and if the Chinese custom were adopted, it would no doubt be a great saving in the labour of that noble quadruped the horse; and would correspond to the scale of excellence of some philosophers, who hold that man is of a more perfect and beautiful form than his female companion, and a horse more perfect and beautiful than either of them.

The New Cap.

The beneficial effects of what some people stigmatize by the name of luxuries or superfluities is well exemplified in a simple little story related by Dr. Franklin:—"The skipper of a shallop," he says, 'employed between Cape May and Philadelphia, had done us some small service, for which he refused to be paid. My wife, understanding that he had a daughter, sent her a present of a new-fashioned cap. Three years after, this skipper being at my house with an old farmer of Cape May, his passenger, he mentioned the cap, and how much his daughter had been pleased with it. But, said he, it proved a dear cap to our congregation. How so?" When my daughter

appeared with it at meeting, it was so much admired, that all the girls resolved to get such caps from Philadelphia; and my wife and I computed that the whole could not have cost less than a hundred pounds.—True, said the farmer, but you do not tell all the story. I think the cap was, nevertheless, an advantage to us; for it was the first thing that put our girls upon knitting worsted mittens for sale at Philadelphia, that they might have wherewithal to buy caps and ribbons there; and you know that that industry has continued, and is likely to continue, and increase to a much greater value, and to answer better purposes. Upon the whole, I was more reconciled to this little piece of luxury, since not only the girls were made happier by having fine caps, but the Philadelphians by the supply of warm mittens.’

The Cottager.

Nothing is so well calculated to excite the industry of the cottager, and to render his condition comfortable, as allowing him to possess, at a moderate rent, a garden and grass land for one or two cows. The experiment has been extensively tried by the Earl of Winchelsea. There are from seventy to eighty labourers upon his estate in Rutlandshire, who keep from one to four cows each; and of all his tenants, these are the most punctual with their rents. The Earl asserts from experience, that nothing is so beneficial both to them and the landholders as this system; that the labourers and their families living better are consequently more able to endure labour; that they are contented with their situation, and attached to it; that having acquired a sort of independence which makes them set a higher value upon their character, they are generally considered in the neighbourhood as men the most to be depended upon and trusted; that feeling the advantage of possessing a little, their industry is excited by hope; and that when a labourer has obtained a cow, and land sufficient to maintain her, his next thought is to save money enough for buying another.

The experiment was tried also in Wiltshire, in a parish containing one hundred and forty poor persons, divided into thirty-two families, chiefly employed as labourers in industry. Having suffered greatly during the high price of provisions in 1801, it was proposed to them that they should make an effort to better their circumstances, and occupy, at a fair rent, such a quantity of land as each family could cultivate without improperly interfering with their usual labour; the land was to be forfeited if they received any relief from the parish, except medical assistance, or under the militia laws. The proposal was gladly accepted by all who could possibly accept it; and the consequence was, that the poor rates, which in the six months before the experiment was made amounted to £212 16s., amounted three years afterwards, in the six corresponding months of winter, to no more than £12 6s. ! The utmost

quantity of land thus leased was an acre and a half, one-fourth of which was planted with potatoes in winter, and the rest was in corn or in garden cultivation, which shows that even arable land, as some have contended, is not always hurtful to the cottager.

A singular Act of Parliament was made in 1778, for the regulation of a valuable common in Essex, containing 453 acres. By an utter neglect of the fences surrounding the common, there was some danger of the bounds being lost, and that encroachments might gradually cut off material parts of it; it was also stocked in a manner that deprived the poor of the benefit which they might, under a better arrangement, have reaped from so fine a tract of land. By the Act it was vested in trustees, who were empowered to levy a tax of 6d. per annum for each sheep, and 2s. 6d. for each head of greater cattle, to form a fund on which to borrow money enough to pay for the Act, and for fencing the common, and other necessary charges; but the trustees were cut off from paying themselves any sum exceeding 40s. per annum for their own expenses. The whole business seemed to have no other object but benevolence to the poor. There are one hundred common rights, and all are made equal, from the poorest cottager to the lord of the manor himself; and all are inalienable from the cottages. By the Act twenty sheep and four beasts were allowed to each right; but every circumstance rested within the power of the trustees, who have reduced this to ten sheep and two head of horses or cattle. William Palmer, Esq., who possessed considerable property here, had the praiseworthy humanity to offer to lay down money to enable every poor man, otherwise unable, to find stock, to buy ten sheep, the produce of which was to be his until he was repaid, and then to remain the cottager's. It is a fact much deserving the most serious attention, that every man who accepted the offer (which very many did) repaid the money within two years, and some in a shorter term. A circumstance that proves what may be done with attention, when the object is sincerely to assist the poor, perhaps in the manner of assisting others the most useful, by giving them stock, and the means of feeding it.

Britton Abbot.

Thrice happy Abbot !

Illustrious swain, 'twas thine, from youth to age,

In hard, yet wholesome, labour to engage
'Twas thine with cheerful heart and patient hand

To raise an Eden on a nook of land.

A flow'ry nook, with nature's bounty graced,
Meed of thy toil, and rescued from the waste.

PRATT.

A beautiful little cottage and garden situated about two miles from Tadcaster on the road to York, has long attracted the eye of the traveller. The slip of land is exactly a quarter of an acre, enclosed by a quick-

, and contains fifteen apple trees, four trees, two apricot trees, several goose-and currant bushes, an abundance of on vegetables, and three hives of bees, all the apparent wealth of the possessor. ngular neatness and good order (says omas Bernard that marked every part little domain, and some circumstances ing the owner, which had been men- ome, made me anxious to obtain the his- the cottager and his family. In the end ;, 1797, in my way from York, I called rned from him his history, as follows:— name of this cottager is Britton Abbot ; sixty-seven, and his wife's nearly the

At nine years old he had gone to work armer ; and being a steady careful lad good labourer, particularly in what is ask-work, he had managed so well, ore he was twenty-two years of age, accumulated nearly £40. He then , and took a little farm at £30 a year ; ore the end of the second year, he prudent, or rather necessary, to quit g already exhausted in his attempt to pon it, almost all the little property he ped together. He then fixed in a at Poppleton, where, with two acres and his common-right, he kept two ere he had resided very comfortably, urer, for nine years, and had six chil- ng, and his wife preparing to lie in of h, when an enclosure of Poppleton ee, and the arrangements made in ence of it obliged him to seek for a tation, and other means of subsist- his family.

plied to Squire Fairfax, and told him : would let him have a little bit of y the road-side, 'he would show him ons on it.' After inquiry into his , he obtained of Mr. Fairfax the e now occupies, and with a little : from the neighbours in the carriage aterials, he built his present house, ed the garden and the hedge around is a single row of quick, thirty-five and without a flaw or defect. He ut it down six times successively as young. Mr. Fairfax was so much ith the progress of his work, and ne neatness of his place, that he e should be rent free. His answer o be remembered:—'Now, sir, you easure in seeing my cottage and at: and why should not other ve the same pleasure in seeing the and gardens as nice about them? would then be happy, and would and the place where they lived ; ery nook of land is to be let to the ers, and nothing left for the poor o the parish.'

had seven children, six of whom man's estate, and five are now liv- ing in the world. One of them of a labourer, who has built a himself at Tadcaster, and wants : the father observes) but a bit of a garden.

Britton Abbot says, he now earns 12s., and sometimes 15s. and 18s. a week, by hoeing turnips by the piece, setting quick, and other task-work ; 'but, to be sure,' he added, 'I have a grand character in all this country.' He gets from his garden, annually, about forty bushels of potatoes, besides other vege- tables ; and his fruit in a good year is worth from £3 to £4. His wife occasionally goes out to work ; she also spins at home, and takes care of his house and garden. He says they have lived very happily together for forty-five years. To the account I have given it may be needless to add, that neither he, nor any part of his family, has ever had oc- casion to apply for parochial relief.

Though my visit was unexpected, and he at the latter end of Saturday's work, his clothes were neat and sufficiently clean, his counte- nance was healthy and open ; he was a little lame in one leg, the consequence of exposure to wet and weather. He said he had always worked hard and well, but would not deny that he had loved a mug of good ale when he could get it. When I told him my object in inquiring after him, that it was in order that other poor persons might have cottages and gardens as neat as his, and that he must tell me all his secret how it was done, he seemed extremely pleased, and very much affected ; he said, 'nothing would make poor folks more happy, than finding that great folks thought of them ; that he wished every poor man had as comfortable a home as his own ; not but that he believed there might be a few thriftless fellows who would not do good on it.'

I asked him whether he had not a cow. He said he had had one, and she had died ; and having no other place but the lane to keep his cow, he had not attempted to get another. 'Could you get land if you had a cow?' He thought he could. 'Suppose, then,' I added, 'a cow could be bought for £12, and you could rent it on the terms of paying down £1 10s. immediately, and then £3 10s. at the end of each year, during three years, and that the cow was to be yours at the end of three years, if she lived, and you paid your rent regularly ; do you think such a bargain would answer you?' 'Yes,' he said, 'he was sure it would very greatly, and there were few cottagers to whom it would not be a very great advantage, especially where they had a family of children.'

Joseph Austin.

A bricklayer in the neighbourhood of Cam- bridge, of the name of Joseph Austin, had often looked with a longing eye upon a bit of ground by the road side, part of what is called, by a term which reflects little credit upon manorial rights, or parochial manage- ment, the lord's waste. Whenever he looked at this spot, he used to think what a nice place it would be for a house ; and being a house builder by trade, and something of a castle builder by nature, he used, as soon as

he fell asleep at night, to dream that he was at work there with his brickbats and trowel. At length he applied to the manor court, and got a verbal leave to build on the spot. Two of his neighbours, moved by envy, as he says, threatened that if he began his house, they would pull it down; upon this he applied a second time to the court, and obtained a legal permission, with the consent of all the copyholders, paying for the entry of his name on the court rolls, and sixpence a year quit rent. Austin was at this time about forty-two years of age; he had a wife and four children, and his whole stock of worldly riches amounted to *fourteen shillings*; but men who really deserve friends are seldom long without them; and a master with whom he usually worked at harvest, sold him an old cottage for nine guineas, which he was to work out.

Austin had for some time, in his leisure hours, been preparing *bats*, a sort of bricks made of clay and straw, well beaten together, eighteen inches long, twelve wide, and four thick, not burnt, but dried in the sun. With these, and the materials of the old cottage, he went to work. As he had to live and support his family by his daily labour, this building could only be carried on when his regular day's work was done; he often continued it by moonlight, and heard the clock strike twelve before he withdrew from an occupation in which his heart was engaged; this, too, when he had to rise at four the next morning, walk to Cambridge (nearly four miles distant) to his work, and return in the evening. If his constitution had not been unusually strong, it must have sunk under these extraordinary exertions, a fate more frequent than is generally supposed among the industrious poor; but he seems to have possessed an unweariable frame of body, as well as an invincible spirit. When the building was one story high, and the beams were to be laid on, the carpenter discovered that the timber from the old cottage would not serve for *so large* a place. This was a severe disappointment; nothing, however, discouraged him; he covered it over with a few loads of *haum*, and immediately began a small place in the same manner at the end, working at this with such perseverance, that he got his family in within four months after the foundations were laid. This great object being accomplished, he went on leisurely with the rest, as he could save money for what he was wanting; after five years he raised the second story, and in ten it was tiled and coated. There was house room in it for himself and his family, and another apartment was let for a guinea a year.

In this manner did Joseph Austin, with singular industry and economy, build himself a house, which he began with only fourteen shillings in his pocket. During that time his wife had four children, and buried as many more. The money which it cost him was about fifty pounds, the whole of which was saved from the earnings of daily labour. The house and garden occupied about twenty poles of ground; and the garden

was as creditable as the house to the industry and good sense of the owner. One of the fences was made of sweet briar and roses mixed with woodbine, and the other of dwarf plum trees; and against the back of the house he had planted a vine, a nectarine, and a peach tree.

Richard Millward.

Within two miles and a half of Shrewsbury, (says Sir William Pulteney) a cottager, whose name is Richard Millward, has a house, and adjoining to it, a garden and land, making about one acre and one-sixteenth, including the garden. He is a collier, and the management of the ground is in a great measure left to his wife; they have six children alive, and have buried five. The soil of this ground, when inclosed by the cottager long ago, was a thin covering of about three or four inches of strong loam, over a clay impregnated with iron, called in Shropshire cat-brain, and considered as the worst soil. It is now changed; but the original soil is still to be seen in the adjoining parts of what was the common. Millward pays three shillings of yearly rent for the house and land, which was leased to him thirty-eight years ago by Lady Malpas.

The wife has managed the ground in a particular manner, for thirteen years, with potatoes and wheat, chiefly by her own labour, and in a way which has yielded good crops, and of late fully equal, or rather superior, to the produce of the neighbouring farms, and with little or no expense.

The ground is dug for potatoes, in the months of March and April, to the depth of about nine inches. Her husband always assists in digging after his hours of ordinary labour. The planting the potatoes, the weeding and reaping them, and the sowing of the wheat, is left to the wife, who sows her wheat on as much ground as she can clear of potatoes that day; and her crops of both have been generally good. She has sixteen poles of ground for her garden, upon which she plants peas, beans, and a part with cabbages; but has early potatoes and turnips for the same year on the same ground.

When she first began this method of alternate crops, and for several years after, she depended on the neighbouring farmers for ploughing and harrowing the land, both for the potatoes and the wheat; but as the farmers naturally delayed to work for her, till their own work was chiefly over, her land was not ploughed in proper time or season. She has now for the last six years been independent of the farmer; and with her family enjoys that comfort and happiness which is the reward of well-directed industry.

Gilmerton Cave.

The village of Gilmerton, in the vicinity of Edinburgh, is celebrated for a cave adjoining to it, which was dug out of a rock by one

erge Paterson, a blacksmith. It was hed in 1724, after five years' hard labour, appears from the inscription on the mey-heads. In this cave are several tments, several beds, a spacious table a large punch bowl, all cut out of the in the nicest manner. Here, too, there a forge, with a well and washing house. eral windows were also formed to communicate light from above. The author of extraordinary piece of workmanship, after ad finished it, lived in it for a long time his family, and prosecuted his business smith. He died in it about the year

He was a feuar, or small proprietor; the cave which he formed and embellished uch, as well as a garden above it, were his property, and his posterity enjoyed the session of them for some time after his death. For many years the cave was deemed great curiosity, and much visited by igers. Pennycuik, the poet, has, in his ts, left us the following inscription on the

pon the earth thrives villainy and woe ;
happiness and I do dwell below.
hand hewed out this rock into a cell,
rein from din of life I safely dwell.
acob's pillow nightly lies my head,
house when living, and my grave when dead.
nbe upon it when I'm dead and gone,
ed and died within my mother's womb.'

An Example for Widows.

the year 1799, a tenant of Mr. Way's, at seton, in Suffolk, died, leaving a widow fourteen children, the eldest of whom a girl under fourteen years of age. He rented fourteen acres of pasture land, on h he kept two cows; these cows, with little furniture and clothing, were all the erty he left. The parish of which he had an inhabitant, was within the district of eorporated house of industry, where the was to receive proper objects within the s, but not to allow anything for the out , except in peculiar cases. The directors ie establishment offered to relieve the w, by taking her seven youngest children the house. When this was proposed to she replied in great agitation, that would rather die in working to maintain children, than part with any of them; or would go with all of them into the house, work for them there; but if her landlord d continue her in the farm, 'as she called ie would undertake to bring up the whole een without any help from the parish. was a strong woman, about forty-five old, and of a noble spirit; happily, too, had to deal with a benevolent man. He her she should continue his tenant, and the land for the first year rent-free; and e same time, unknown to her, he directed receiver not to call upon her afterwards, eing with even that indulgence, it would great thing if she could maintain so large

a family. But this further liberality was not needed. She brought her rent regularly every year after the first; held the land till she had placed twelve of the children in service; and then resigned it to take the employment of a nurse, which would enable her to provide for the remaining two, for the little time longer that they needed support, and which was more suited to her declining years.

Flemish Houses of Industry.

At Strasbourg, and in most of the great towns in Flanders, houses of industry are established with a view to extirpate idleness, beggary, and mendicity. These workhouses are in every respect masterpieces of political economy.

In one of the largest of the suppressed convents, they have fixed in the kitchen a kiln to prepare cheap soups. In the rooms of the ground floor are set up looms for weaving. In the galleries and sleeping rooms are placed wheels and machines for spinning; and where the size will admit it, they form eating rooms, and reserve a part for chambers, in which some slight works, such as plaiting of straw, and making hats, may be performed.

At eight in the morning the gates are opened, and there enter men and women of every age, who have no work in the town; mothers with their families, servants out of place, labourers who have no masters, and children whose fathers and mothers, because of the labours necessary for their subsistence, cannot have an eye over them. After this voluntary entrance, the police officers traverse the town, and send every beggar and idle person they meet with to the house of industry.

As each person crosses the threshold of the door, an account is taken of him for a share in the distribution of the soup, bread, and water. There is no need of strength or talent to give a right to this barely necessary refreshment; but afterwards every person who is able is put to work, and receives wages and an augmentation of food. His pay is proportioned to his capacity; but nevertheless, it is fixed below what is given in private manufactories, that the bait of a little higher wages may rouse the workman, and engage him, by removing to a manufactory, to leave his place vacant in the workhouse. Every attention is paid to the proper distribution of labour according to the ages of the individuals. If a woman enters with five children, the eldest sits down at the wheel; the second, at some paces' distance, picks wool or cotton; the third, whose arms cannot reach to turn the wheel with one hand, and to stretch out the other to carry the thread round the bobbin, moves the wheel, while a little comrade carries the wool or cotton to the other end of the beam; the fourth child, scarcely two years old, is in a cradle, which the mother rocks with her foot; the fifth hangs at the breast, and she supports it with

her left hand, while with the right she turns a spindle.

In some houses of industry, that the children may not disturb the workmen, they are put all together in the winter into a chamber, and in the summer into a garden. The old women have the charge of them, and divert and scold them. In the intervals between the hours of labour, the mothers visit them; and those who are nurses, at the proper times give the little ones suck.

So the days run out. At eight in the evening the doors are opened, and all withdraw. They come again the succeeding days, having acquired more aptitude for work; or the manufactories wanting more hands, the workmen quit the school of industry to attach themselves to a manufacturer. In the mean time the habit of begging is lost, and a habit of labour is formed: and so he who was a degraded being, a burden to himself, and injurious to society, becomes a man useful to himself and others.

Maison de Force at Ghent.

Mr. Buxton, who visited the *Maison de Force* of Ghent in the year 1817, gives the following interesting account of the system of employment by which criminals are there reclaimed to industrious and moral habits.

A prisoner 'before his trial is merely confined; he is not compelled to work, but if he wishes it, he is provided with the materials; he is furnished with a sufficiency of food and clothing, has a well-ventilated cell for the night, and a large airy yard and covered corridors for his exercise and recreation by day; and he has no communication with convicts, or with delinquents suspected of crimes of a different degree of atrocity from that with which he is charged. He can see his friends or legal adviser at certain hours and under certain regulations; and if his health is impaired, he receives every accommodation, and the best medical attendance.

'When he is convicted, he is immediately introduced to the manufactory; if he understands any kind of work which is practised in it, he is furnished with the tools, &c.; if he is ignorant, he is placed as an apprentice to some experienced workman, who is interested in his instruction, as for a certain period he receives a portion of his earnings.

'The same care of his diet, health, and cleanliness is continued; he is allowed two hours' exercise, and the remainder of the day is devoted to hard labour. By this excellent system he gains habits of order, self-restraint, and subjection of mind; diligence becomes habitual, and is rendered agreeable by the wages it produces.

'The major part of the prisoners of the same class work together, in rooms 170 feet long, and 26 broad. The principal employment is weaving calico, damask, and sacking cloth; but there are shops for sawyers, carpenters, blacksmiths, &c.

'The utmost order and regularity are preserved. No prisoner is allowed to speak; and

to such an extent was this carried, that they did not answer our questions when we addressed them. I never saw any manufactory, in which the workmen were more busy; whenever we went, there was no noise but the motion of the shuttle; and every eye and every hand was engaged. Whether our conductor was with us, or at a distance, no difference was observable. In fact, order was carried to its highest point.

'This manufactory is under a contractor, who furnishes each prisoner, daily, with twenty-six ounces of brown bread, and two quarts of soup, for which he receives from Government threepence-halfpenny per head. He provides raw materials: these are weighed when they are given out and when they are returned, and the prisoner must pay for any deficiency. He also finds machinery, but the person who uses it is answerable for any accident. The work done is estimated according to a regulated price, and the prisoner receives the whole amount of his earnings every week. The contractor appoints from among the prisoners two or more overseers in each room, whose duty it is to inspect the operations of the others, and preserve silence.'

The most remarkable circumstance in the history of this establishment has still to be noticed. It is this: that *want of work* is one of the greatest punishments that can be inflicted. 'We did not,' says Mr. Buxton, 'see a fetter, or a chain, in the whole prison. The refractory are sentenced to prohibition of work, or to solitary confinement, not exceeding ten days. In former times, corporal punishment was allowed, but this is now dispensed with—“merely,” as the governor said, “because it was found to be unnecessary.” Privation of work, is penalty sufficient to keep ninety-nine out of a hundred orderly and attentive to the rules; and if they do occasionally receive one of an unusually turbulent and ungovernable disposition, a week's solitary confinement invariably reduces him to obedience: a repetition of this effectual and dreaded mode of discipline, is an event of very rare occurrence.'

French Peasantry.

The peasantry in France, though a very industrious class of society, are generally very poor; though since the changes that have taken place in the holders of landed property since the revolution, some of them are even wealthy. A recent traveller, in writing to his friend on this subject from Montauban, says, 'you know, I told you that in the neighbourhood of Angoulême, the peasant who worked for me at 30 sous a-day, because he could get others to do his own work at 28, was possessed of considerable property in vineyards and arable land; that the Marquess de T. pointed out to me the peasant holding the plough, who is purchasing all the land in the neighbourhood of the marquess's estate. At Toulouse, the man who pays contributions to the greatest amount, without any one ex-

ption, is a peasant: he pays upon produce a hundred thousand francs a-year. I was asking of this the other day to Mr. V., a noble proprietor here, and a practical agriculturist: replied, this was trifling compared to the wealth of some peasants about Montauban: pointed to the beautiful rich plain on the other side of the Tarn, showing with his finger a circle of the richest part, far beyond what I could estimate in acres; all that, he said, was the property of one peasant, whose income amounts to 300,000 francs a-year. There is another family of three brothers, on the right bank of the Tarn, above the town, who have, by degrees, got possession of more than a league of country in length; but in this case, they purchased with assignats; in the others, it has been the effect of mere saving. These peasants continue their original habits, work, feed, lodge, and are clothed as they used to be, with the only difference of eating a little more meat than formerly, and drinking *t vin* instead of water; their savings are applied to the purchase of more and more land; he who takes for his expenses but a few hundred francs a year, out of a revenue of hundreds of thousands, may well be considered as the master, in the purchase of what land comes into the market.

The Chinese.

the empire of China, which contains nearly half the number of the human race, no part of ground that is capable of cultivation is neglected, though ever so small or difficult of access. Roots and greens are there the principal nourishment of the inhabitants; and they take no pains to procure them in the greatest variety, and of the best kinds. They have all kinds of roots and edible herbs which are not known in Europe; and besides cultivating all their lands, they obtain crops from all aquatic plants which are used as delicacies at the Chinese tables; particularly the chestnut. This, by the imperial order, has been cultivated in all the lakes and rivers belonging to the empire. All the ponds, in which water the emperor's garden, are filled with it. The ponds and ditches everywhere are overspread with the flowers and leaves of this plant; which bears a fruit enclosed in a husk like a chestnut, and of a very pleasant and wholesome nature.

In a narrative of Lord Macartney's embassy to China, it is related that his lordship's servants, in passing through a part of that country, saw a man cultivating the side of a precipice; that, on examination, they found he had a rope fastened round his middle, by which he secured at the top of the mountain, and by which he let himself down to any part of the precipice, where a few yards of feasible ground gave him encouragement to plant his corn and sow his corn. The whole of the cultivated spots, which were at some distance from each other, appeared to be not more than half an acre; and near the bottom of the precipice, on a hillock, he had a little

hut, where he supported a wife and family in this hazardous manner.

In consequence of the universal industry of the Chinese, together with their superior skill in husbandry, and their simple mode of living, almost every man is able to support a family; accordingly, they marry young, and multiply and cover the earth like grasshoppers. They are classed in the denomination of *pagan*; but some of their habits and customs are highly worthy of the notice and imitation of *Christian* people.

Old Times.

Bishop Latimer's sermons are full of information respecting the state of England in his days; and in one of them he gives the following picture of the comfort, happiness, and industry of his father's family. 'My father,' says he, 'was a yeoman, and had no lands of his own; only he had a farm of three or four pound by year, at the uttermost, and hereupon he tilled so much, as kept half a dozen men. He had walk for a hundred sheep, and *my mother milked thirty kine*. He was able, and did find the king a harness, with himself and his horse, while he came to the place that he should receive the king's wages. I can remember, that I buckled his harness when he went to Blackheath field. He kept me to school, or else I had not been able to have preached before the king's majesty now. He married my sisters with five pounds, or twenty nobles, a piece; so that he brought them up in godliness and fear of God. He kept hospitality for his poor neighbours, and some alms he gave to the poor; and all this he did of the same farm; where he that now hath it, payeth sixteen pound by the year, or more, and is not able to do anything for his prince, for himself, nor for his children, or give a cup of drink to the poor.'

Embanking.

Mr. Harriot, the founder of the Thames police, though not the most successful, was certainly one of the most patient and industrious adventurers that ever attempted to rise in the world by his own talents and exertions; his spirit always rose against emergencies, and his exertions were increased in proportion to the resistance by which they were opposed. A remarkable instance of this occurs during his residence in England, before he went to America. His house was on the banks of a navigable river, near which was a sunken island containing between two and three hundred acres of land, which was covered by the sea at half tide. Mr. Harriot conceived the possibility of wresting this island from the dominion of the ocean; and purchasing it at an auction for forty pounds, strenuously set about an embankment, in which he adventured the greatest part of his property. The embankment was begun in July; and in the December following, a wall of earth was raised more than two miles and a half in

circumference, thirty feet thick at its base, declining at an angle of forty-five degrees, till it was six feet thick at top and eight feet high. The two ends of the wall were about one hundred and forty feet apart, separated by a deep ravine, through which the tide ebbed and flowed with a current stronger than that under the great arch of London Bridge. The most hazardous part of the undertaking yet remained. The struggle must be strong against a powerful foe, and decided in a few hours. Mr. H. had in vain persuaded his contractors to use timber in the work, although he offered to supply them with it gratuitously. On Christmas Day this ravine was to be filled up with a mound of earth. The exertions of manual labour were vast. The tide rose, but found its passage stopped. The mound kept rising; but at last, for want of timber, *mole ruit sua*! its own weight broke it down. On the sixth spring tide, all this great body of earth was swept away, scarcely a vestige of it was to be seen, and the difficulty of another attempt was much increased from the greater distance it was necessary to go for the earth. The contractors ran away indebted one hundred and twenty-five pounds to the men to whom they had under-let the work. But all these difficulties only stimulated a courageous spirit. The work was begun again, under the direction of Mr. H. himself, who contracted with the men on the same terms as before; and as an encouragement to steady exertion, promised them the hundred and twenty-five pounds as a bonus if they succeeded in shutting out the tide. Of his success in the first instance he shall be his own narrator.

'The season of the year,' says he, 'was much against me. I had to fell my timber in a wood, thirteen miles from my island. I cut down trees from ten to fifteen inches in diameter, making piles of them from twelve to twenty-four feet in length. With an engine I drove them in two rows, fifteen feet apart, across the ravine, or deep outlet, and as close together in the rows as we could drive them. I secured them together by girders or beams across, within five feet of the bottom, and three feet of the top, keyed and bolted on the outside. This was my cofferdam to hold the earth in the centre of my mound, as a strong core or heart to the whole.'

'By the 17th of January all was ready for another sharp contest with the sea, to determine, by force of arms, who should conquer and keep possession of the disputed property. I took the command myself. My troops were all stationed before daybreak; our enemy then retreating, in order to advance again with greater force (the neap-tides being over, and the spring tides commencing).

The morning was cold and frosty. A dram and three cheers was the signal for attack. Knowing the obstinate perseverance of my foe, and that our contest would be long and strong, I repressed the ardour of my troops a little at the onset. Every half hour I suspended the attack; and, from several barrels of strong porter ammunition, which I had pro-

vided ready on the spot, and elevated on a small tower made of earth, I issued out half a pint to each man; and to such of them as had not provided better for themselves, my bread, butter, and cheese were welcome. I served it all out myself, with a cheering kind of language suited to the people; by which, I verily believe what one of my officers (a master carpenter) for the time said, viz.: "That I had more work done for a few barrels of porter, with a little management and address, than many men would have obtained for as many hundred pounds."

The enemy advanced against us, and persevered in the attack for several hours; when, having proved the strength of our works, and failed, he retreated. At the severest part of the struggle (high water) I advanced in front, with a waller's tool in one hand and a pot of porter in the other; when, repeating the words that are related of King Canute, I said, "Thus far shalt thou go, but no farther," adding, as he began to retire, that although a conquered foe, I bore him no enmity. We then gave him three lusty cheers, drinking the king's health on such an accession to his majesty's agricultural dominions.'

After this noble triumph, for which Mr. Harriot most deservedly received the gold medal from the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c., he built a farm-house, &c. on the island, and began to cultivate the land. For the first six or seven years, the expenses were considerably greater than the profits; but the crops afterwards began to repay his industry by an annual and rapid increase in their value. Everything appeared prosperous; when early in the spring of 1799 a fire broke out in the dead of the night, by which his house, barn, and outhouses were burnt to the ground, and but little of the furniture saved. The only part of the premises saved was an old brick wash-house at the bottom of a yard, and part of the stable. The wash-house was now fitted up as a temporary residence, and it was determined to rebuild a cheap substantial dwelling-house as soon as possible. This was completed before the winter, and the crops on the island seemed to promise they would pay the expenses. 'In the January following our calamity,' says Mr. H., 'I would not have sold these expected crops for less than £600.' But adversity rarely comes unattended with a train of misfortunes; within eleven months after the destruction of a considerable part of his property by the flames, he was destined to see the remaining *all* of it swallowed up by the ocean. With what philosophy he bore this second calamity we have in his own words:

'While standing with folded arms on the highest part of the embankment of my island (he says), I looked down on the raging water element, swelling itself to a height that had never been known before, and overtopping my walls, as if in search of what I had formerly wrested from its dominion, seeking revenge itself by the destruction of that property the fire could not reach. I too assuredly saw I was a ruined man, but gave no way

spondency. Hard and unequal were my struggles against two such outrageous elements as seemed combined against me. Though beaten, I was not subdued; my spirit remained unshaken, and in those dissuasive moments I resolved to endeavour at covering the island for those to whom I was indebted, rather than abandon it, without struggle, to the remorseless rage of the my.

About one-fourth of the embankment had led down a foot; it was intended to have been raised eighteen inches during the preceding summer, had not the expenses of digging incurred by the fire made it necessary to defer it. This unfortunate delay occasioned the loss of the island. Instead of desponding, H., within a few days after the accident, drained the water by extraordinary exertions four feet below the surface of the land. The tide had flowed over its walls, and by rising the island full of water, gave a fatal proof of their strength. To repair the mischief, he required a capital of which he was now bereft; he was reluctantly compelled to abandon his enterprise.

Manufacturing Celerity.

Some years ago a gentleman made a bet of a thousand guineas, that he would have a coat made in the course of a single day, the first process of shearing the sheep, to completion by the tailor. The wager was made at Newbury, on the 25th of June, by Mr. John Coxeter, of Greenham, near that town. At five o'clock that evening, Sir John Throckmorton, Bart, presented two Southdown weather sheep to Mr. Coxeter. Accordingly the sheep were shorn, the wool spun, the yarn spooled, warped, dyed, and wove; the cloth burred, milled, dyed, dried, sheared, and pressed, and put into the hands of the tailors, by four o'clock that afternoon; and twenty minutes after, the coat, entirely finished, was presented by Mr. Coxeter to Sir John Throckmorton, who appeared with it before an assemblage of upwards of 5000 spectators, who filled the air with their acclamations.

Mercantile Adventure.

Richard Atkinson was one of the many instances of good sense and persevering industry, well directed in a commercial country like England. When he first came from the north, he was a mere adventurer, without fortune or even friends that could serve him, and with no other acquisitions of education than common penmanship and arithmetic. Circumstanced, he came to London, and through different counting-houses and offices, he at length commenced speculation, which soon produced that prodigious fortune of which he died possessed. Though this was the gentleman whom we have mentioned, in allusion to a contract for rum

which he had with the Government, called a *rogue in spirit*, yet he was generous and even magnificent in his bounty. He once, in the gaiety of conversation, offered to Lady A. Lindsay, to employ a thousand pounds of her fortune with his own capital in trade, and to give her the due portion of profits. The offer was of course accepted; and in three years, her ladyship received her original thousand pounds, with the splendid addition of nine thousand more.

American Settlers.

The emigrants to the United States of America, are from almost every nation in Europe; but it is a remarkable and striking fact, that the Germans, Dutch, and Swiss, succeed much better than those of any other country. This is owing to their great industry and economy, and still more to the judicious mode they adopt in settling. In general, before these people emigrate, they form associations, lay down their plans, and send over an agent in whom they can confide. He purchases for them a suitable extent of land, and prepares the way; when their arrangements are made, they move over in one body. This system has always been followed by these people, and the consequences are visible in almost every part of the United States, but more particularly in the States of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, in all parts of which they are in possession of the best lands.

The rapidity with which one of these colonies acquires wealth and property, will appear by comparison of their present state with their situation when they first sat down; and for the sake of example, one of those societies shall be selected, and a review taken of their progress. This is the Harmonist Society, situated about twenty miles from Pittsburg, which came from Wirtemberg, in Germany, whence civil and religious persecution compelled them to flee. In 1803 they sent an agent to America, who fixed on a situation about twenty miles from Pittsburg.

In 1804, forty families embarked at Amsterdam in three ships; and in 1805 they were followed by fifty more families, making in all ninety. The whole of their property was about 20,000 dollars. This they laid out in the purchase of 9000 acres of land, of which in the summer of 1805 they had cleared 205 acres.

In 1806, they had built a large inn, several other public buildings, had established a tannery, and had 368 acres of land cleared.

In 1807, 400 acres of land were cleared, and four acres of vines were planted.

In 1809, the produce of their land was 4500 bushels of rye, 4500 bushels of wheat, 6000 bushels of Indian corn, 10,000 bushels of potatoes, 5000 bushels of oats, 4000 lbs. of flax and hemp, 100 bushels of barley brewed into beer, and 50 gallons of sweet oil from the white poppy.

In 1810, they began the manufacture of broadcloth; and in 1811, the property of the

society, including 9000 acres of land, with improvements, was estimated at no less a sum than 220,000 dollars.

Civilized Indians.

In the year 1803, the Quakers made the experiment of introducing habits of industry among the Seneca Indians, as one of the first steps towards their civilization. In 1806, three of the committee having charge of Indian concerns, were appointed to pay the Indians a visit, in order to see what improvements they had made in the preceding three years. 'We set out,' says one of the committee, who furnishes this account, 'on the 1st of the 9th month; arrived about the middle of the same, and found the Indians mostly at home, employed in useful labour. In passing along to the settlement formed by the committee at Tunessassa, I was astonished at the improvements made by the Indians within the last three years; for notwithstanding many very sanguine expectations, they had considerably exceeded, in labour and attention, any opinion I had formed. The aspect of things was truly pleasing, indicating increasing industry and economy, and very encouraging to us, as proofs that our labours have not been in vain. Even the roads opened by them are extremely well made, being much superior to those we observed among the frontier white inhabitants. They had erected nearly one hundred new houses since my last visit, most of them two stories high, and well put up with hewn logs very perpendicular at the corner, and nicely fitted together. Some have panelled doors and stone chimneys, and a great many of them glass windows. Their farms are enclosed under good fences from seven to ten rails high; and there is a much greater proportion of corn planted this season than has been known before, and it generally looked well. The buildings are, with little exception, their own work; their ingenuity in some of the mechanic arts, being equal to their industry in agricultural pursuits.

'It is a peculiar satisfaction to find that one effect of the endeavours of the Society of Friends with these people, has been a diminution of labour on the part of the females in the corn fields, &c.; for in their former savage state, they appear to have been consigned to slavery in the field, the procuring of wood, and many other hardships; the men seldom if ever assisting them. But notwithstanding the women now labour less in the field, they are not idle. Some of them have been taught the art of making soap, in order to promote cleanliness. Some have also learned to spin and knit. Both men and women were much more cleanly in their persons, clothes, and houses, than at the time of our last visit.

'It is very remarkable, that the Indians among whom we have endeavoured to promote the arts of civil life, have very generally abandoned the use of ardent spirits; population is evidently increasing with them, from this change in their way of life. They

appeared to enjoy good health; and it is manifest, that there is in the natives an encouraging improvement in agriculture, and some of the mechanic arts, as well as in the regularity of their lives and manners.'

Franklin.

Dr. Franklin, in his memoirs, is particularly anxious to inculcate the duties of industry, in order that his posterity may know the use of a virtue, to which he was so largely indebted. Throughout the whole of his long life, his precept was strengthened by an example of the most remarkable industry, of which he furnishes many instances. When a printer, he was engaged in a work of forty sheets, on which he worked exceeding hard, for the price was low. 'I composed,' says he, 'a sheet a day, and Meredith worked it off at press; it was often eleven at night, and sometimes later, before I had finished my distribution for the next day's work; for the little jobs sent in by our other friends, now and then put us back. But so determined was I to continue doing a sheet a day of the folio, that one night when having imposed my forms, and I thought my day's work over, one of them by accident was broken, and two pages were reduced to *pie* [a printer's term for the type getting mixed and in confusion], I immediately distributed and composed it over again before I went to bed; and this industry, visible to our neighbours, began to give us character and credit; particularly I was told, that mention being made of the new printing office, at the merchants' every-night club, the general opinion was, that it must fail, there being already two printers in the place, Keimer and Bradford; but Dr. Baird, a native of St. Andrew's in Scotland, gave a contrary opinion. "For the industry of that Franklin," said he, "is superior to anything I ever saw of the kind; I see him still at work when I go home from the club, and he is at work again before his neighbours are out of bed." This struck the rest, and we soon after had offers from one of them to supply us with stationery; but as yet we did not choose to engage in shop business.'

Fletcher of Saltoun.

The celebrated Fletcher of Saltoun, who distinguished himself so remarkably by his political hostility to the tyranny of the last two princes of the House of Stuart, by his zeal for the revolution under King William, and by his opposition to the legislative union between England and Scotland, by which the separate importance of the latter was forever lost, and its prosperity, notwithstanding, wonderfully promoted, was the principal proprietor of a large district in Haddingtonshire, in which are situated the villages of Saltoun East and West. When Mr. Fletcher saw the union fully established, and his own political

er at a close, he appears to have directed active spirit to the improvement of his try in the useful arts. Accordingly the owe to him the fanners and the mill taking pot or hulled barley. Having rel a considerable time in Holland, along other British malcontents, before the re- tion, he had observed there the two in- tents already mentioned : and at a future d of his life, he contrived to import them his native country. With this view, in he carried James Meikle, a millwright neighbourhood, to Holland. Mr. Meikle to Amsterdam, and Mr. Fletcher took s residence at the Hague. The corre- ence between them is said to be still in nce ; and from thence it appears, that onwork of the barley mill was purchased olland. As the Dutch were always ex- ly jealous of the exportation or intro- a to foreign countries of any of their actures or instruments, Mr. Meikle is o have been under the necessity of dis- g himself as a menial servant of his yer's lady, and in that character obtained sion to see the instruments which he to imitate, by attending the lady on ded visits of curiosity. Mr. Meikle, return to Saltoun, erected a barley mill ind made and sold the instrument called nners, now universally used. The mill had constant employment, and u barley was written upon almost betty shop in the Scottish villages.

Barbara Gilmour.

s hitherto been one of the misfortunes kind, that in consequence of a false ey have bestowed more attention and e upon great talents or ingenuity, erted in the arts of destruction, than mployed in devising the means of plenty and felicity to nations. The of historians and poets are filled with ons of men, who, under the influence able lust of dominion, have wasted d provinces, and have defaced the onuments of human genius and in- hile the beneficent enterprises and f those persons are neglected or for- who invented the instruments of agri- who selected or imported into their the plants most worthy of cultivation ; drained morasses, gave fertility to astes, and pointed out the best modes ving and augmenting the value of uctions of the soil. Mankind have severely from their absurd admiration ful ambition, and the applause which ow upon it ; tempting thereby rest- iduals, in every age, to lay schemes destruction, and to glory in the ex- ie mischief which they produce. It be the duty of men of letters, as humanity, to endeavour, in the dis- of renown, to call from obscurity sons, however humble their stations been, who have successfully laboured

in promoting the substantial prosperity of their country. Among the number, none is more deserving of this service than Barbara Gil- mour, whose good sense and industry first produced in Ayrshire what is now celebrated through all Scotland by the name of Dunlop cheese.

Barbara had gone to Ireland to avoid the religious persecution which was conducted with such atrocity in the west of Scotland, under the last princes of the House of Stuart. Having returned after the revolution, and be- come the wife of a farmer in the parish of Dunlop, she introduced the manufacture of cheese, which, since that period, has been the great business of this part of Ayrshire, and has been the means of covering the country with a number of industrious, happy, and prosperous small farmers. The people, sensible that the climate and soil were more favourable for grazing than for any other purpose, be- stowed upon it their greatest care. They have enclosed their farms, have but a third or fourth of their land in tillage, and the rest in grass, which is always a plentiful crop, and of the finest quality.

The rapidity with which the manufacture of Dunlop cheese was introduced into the northern part of Ayrshire, is a striking in- stance of the readiness with which farmers are always disposed to follow the example of one of their own rank. When an equal, de- pending like themselves for subsistence upon success in industry, prospers by means of a new project or plan of management, the whole neighbourhood cagerly imitates the example set before them, and the change becomes universal ; while, on the contrary, if the im- provement is attempted to be introduced by some proprietor, from motives of caprice as they suppose, and with means which they cannot so well command, it always makes its way slowly and with difficulty. It is thus that Providence sometimes puts it in the power of a person in the humblest station to become most extensively useful to society. The ex- ample of his successful ingenuity and industry, by rapidly communicating a spirit of activity and of enterprise, proves the source of riches to the whole community.

High Rents.

High rents and large farms are usually associated in idea, though between them there is no necessary connexion. Large farms, by their uniform tendency to diminish the num- bers of a vigorous and healthy population, are founded on an evil princip'e, the destructive operation of which it requires so much wisdom to restrain, that as yet all the efforts of legis- lation to establish an efficient restraint have been fruitless ; but the general tendency of high rents, on the contrary, is to stimulate industry, the parent of prosperity and popula- tion ; and when pushed to such an excess as to become an evil, the evil is of that nature that it must correct itself. It was a maxim of the celebrated Dutch statesman, De Witt,

that a people are enriched by being gradually compelled to pay additional taxes. So it is with high rents. Tenants are thus stimulated to higher exertions of skill and industry, which enable them not only to pay their additional burdens, but to accumulate large surplus profits. Nothing is more common than to see one farmer almost starving upon a property for which he pays a very trifling rent; while at the end of his lease another shall pay more than twice the rent for the same farm, and shall rapidly become wealthy upon it.

Machinery.

Mr. Owen calculates that two hundred arms, with machines, now manufacture as much cotton as twenty millions of arms were able to manufacture without machines forty years ago; and that the cotton now manufactured in the course of one year in Great Britain would require, without machines, sixteen millions of workmen with simple wheels. He calculates further, that the quantity of manufactures of all sorts, at present produced by British workmen with the aid of machines, is so great, that it would require, without the assistance of machinery, the labour of four hundred millions of workmen!

In the wool manufacture, machines are understood to possess an eminent advantage over common wheels. The yarn on thirty or thirty-six spindles is all equally twisted and drawn to the same degree of fineness; and, from the nature of the motion, the twist cannot be hard, nor the thread fine, which renders the cloth soft, firm, and durable. The most dexterous spinners cannot twist so equally and so gently twenty slips of yarn from wool of the same quality as a machine can do twenty thousand. And it is now universally agreed that both warp and woo, twisted as gently as the loom can admit, is most susceptible of being driven close by the mill, of receiving the strongest dye, and of acquiring the smoothest surface.

At one of the cotton mills in Manchester, yarn has been spun so fine as to require 350 hanks to weigh one pound avoirdupois. The perimeter of the common reel being one yard and a half, 80 threads or revolutions would measure 120 yards; and one hank seven times as much, or 840 yards; multiplied by 350, gives 294,000 yards, or 167 miles and a fraction!

A steam-engine of the ordinary pressure and construction, with a cylinder of thirty inches in diameter, will perform the work of forty horses; and, as it may be made to act without intermission, while horses will not work more than eight hours in the day, it will do the work of *one hundred and twenty horses*; and further, the work of a horse being equal to that of five men, it will perform as much as *six hundred men* can, and the whole expense of it is equal to about as much as that of half the number of horses for which it is substituted. The only thing to which

these machines were at first applied was the raising of water from coal-pits, mines, &c. but they are now used for many different purposes, in which great power is required. Mr. Bolton applied this force to his apparatus for coining, which, by the help of four boys only was capable of striking *thirty thousand* pieces of money in an hour, the machine itself keeping an accurate account of the number struck off.

Domestic Arts.

In the earlier ages of antiquity, it was inconsistent with the highest dignity to act in what would now be accounted the meanest menial employments. Among the ancient Egyptians, the women were occupied abroad in trade, merchandize, and agriculture; and descending to periods less remote, we find that in Lesser Asia, where it would seem women were far from being so much despised and neglected as in many other parts of the world, even those of the first quality were not ashamed to perform the office of a washerwoman; and a similar practice afterwards prevailed in Greece.

In the heroic ages, the Grecian wives and daughters, of whatever quality, were not brought up to idleness. Penelope, Queen of the famous Ulysses, is so frequently introduced by Homer at her loom, that almost every one has heard the story of Penelope's web. The famous Helen, while confined by the besiegers of Troy, employed herself in an extraordinary piece of embroidery, which represented many of the battles fought between the Greeks and the Trojans; and Andromache, when she heard of the death of Hector, embroidered a representation of that tragical scene, and adorned it with flowers. But such soft employments, and such works of taste, were the sole occupations of the women in those times we are delineating. The same Andromache, who with her needle painted the life of the hero of her country, was not ashamed to feed and take care of the horses of the hero, when living.

Besides the arts of weaving and embroidery, which were not unknown to the women in the patriarchal ages, the Grecian fair employed themselves in spinning, which they performed standing, and in every other branch of the manufacture of cloth; a custom which continued during the most polished periods of Grecian history. Alexander the Great, and many other heroes and statesmen, wore garments spun and woven by their wives and sisters.

During the chivalrous ages in Europe, various kinds of needlework formed a material part of female employment; and many women of the first rank were themselves taught, and instructed their daughters in the art of flowering and embroidery, which they practised to such an extent that much of the furniture of their houses was decorated in this manner with their own hands.

King Edward the Elder was particularly

entive to the education of his children, and pressed them in early life with a sense of duty of industry. His daughters were trusted in all those branches of learning which were proper to adorn their minds; and the intervals of study they exercised their talents, or employed themselves in needlework. These industrious habits did not disgrace them in the eyes of the other sex; but the contrary, strongly recommended them to the esteem even of foreign potentates; and four of Edward's daughters were married to foreign princes, kings, and emperors. His daughters were also so studious, that, like Plato's philosophers, they were masters of every science, and fit to assume the reins of government with dignity and wisdom.

William Edwards.

One of the most extraordinary bridges in Great Britain, is that over the river Taff, near Cardiff, in Glamorganshire, called in Welsh, *Pont y ty Pridd*. This was the work of William Edwards, an uneducated mason of the country, who was only indebted for his skill to his own industry and the power of his hands. He had engaged in 1746 to build a bridge at this place, which he executed in a style superior to anything of the kind in any part of Wales, for neatness of construction and elegance of design. It consisted of three arches, elegantly light in their construction, and was admired by all who saw it. Unfortunately, a great flood which occurred drifted down a quantity of timber against the bridge. In consequence of this action to the flood, a thick and strong ice, as it were, was formed. The aggregate of many collected streams being unable to pass any further, rose here to a prodigious height, and with the force of its pressure destroyed the bridge entirely away before it. William Edwards had given security for the safety of the bridge for seven years; it lasted only two years and a half. Of course he was obliged to erect another; and he proceeded on his duty with all possible speed. The second bridge was of one arch, for the sake of admitting freely under it whatever branches the floods might bring down. The span, or chord, of this arch was 140 feet, the height 35 feet, the segment of a circle of diameter 170 feet. The arch was completed, but the parapets not yet erected, such was the pressure of the unavoidable and ponderous work over the haunches, that sinking in the middle, and the key stones forced out. This was a severe blow to a man who had hitherto met with nothing but success in an enterprise which was to enrich or ruin him in his profession. William Edwards, however, possessed a courage and confidence in his powers which never failed him; he engaged in the work a third time, and by means of cylindrical holes bored in the haunches, so reduced their weight, that there was no longer any danger. The second bridge fell in 1761; the third, which has stood ever since, was com-

pleted in 1761. The present arch is 140 feet in span, and 35 feet high, being a segment of a circle of 175 in diameter. In each haunch there are three cylindrical openings running through from side to side; the diameter of the lowest is nine feet, of the next six feet; and of the uppermost three feet. The width of the bridge is about eleven feet. To strengthen it horizontally, it is made widest at the abutments, from which it contracts towards the centre.

Old Practices.

In some parts of Scotland, in former times the ploughs used to be drawn by four horses abreast, and required the attendance of three men. The business of one man was to drive. For that purpose he placed himself between the middle horses, with his face towards the plough to guide it straight, and in this position he stepped backwards with the reins in his hand. Another walked behind the horses with a *cleeked* staff, which he fastened in the front of the beam, and by means of it regulated the depth of the furrow, by raising or lowering the plough as occasion required. The ploughman followed with a hold of the stilts; and in this formidable and ludicrous manner they repeated their attacks on the soil.

In harvest, a basket machine was placed on horseback for carrying home the grain; and persons were employed on each side with forks to keep it in a proper poise. It is said that this practice is yet to be met with in Galloway.

Many practices subsisting even at this day in Ireland are still more ridiculous. Mr. Arthur Young tells us, that in Donegal he has actually seen horses ploughing by the tail!

Idlers.

Skilful politicians have been so sensible of the dangers of idleness, that they have always been vigilant to find work for their people. When Pisistratus had the supreme command, he sent for those who were idle about the streets, and asked why they loitered about doing nothing? 'If your cattle be dead,' said he, 'take others from me and work; if you want seed, that also will I give you.' So fearful was he of the injurious effects that would result from habits of idleness.

African Slaves.

The industry of the African slave would often do honour to any of England's free, though laborious sons; and could he but have the same impulse, or reap the same advantages for his labour, there is no fear of his ever being found wanting in exertion. An instance of the industry of a negro who was living a few years ago, is related by Mr. Warden, the Consul General of the United States at Paris, on the authority of General Mason, who communicated it to him.

Yaro, before the American revolutionary war, was brought from Africa to the United States, and there sold as a slave to a family who lived near George Town, on the banks of the Potomac. After many years of hard labour and faithful service, his master gave him his freedom as a reward. Yaro resolved to be independent; he toiled late and early, and in the course of a few years, he amassed a hundred dollars; this sum, which he considered as a fortune, he placed in the hands of a merchant; but by whose death and insolvency it was lost, and the poor African found himself in the same situation as when he became free. This affected him much; his usual strength had abated, old age was approaching, but he still cherished the hope of independence. He worked all day at fixed wages, and in the evening he made nets, baskets, and other articles for sale. A few years elapsed, and he was again rich; another hundred dollars were the fruit of his toil. This amount he deposited in the hands of another merchant of George Town, but he also became a bankrupt. Yaro was sad, but his courage and habits of industry suffered no change. He again resolved to be independent; he renewed his taste for daily labour, which he continued without relaxation for several years. He again found himself in possession of another and better fortune, of two hundred dollars; by the advice of a friend, who explained to him the nature of a bank, he purchased shares to this amount in that of Columbia in his own name, the interest of which now affords him a comfortable support. Though more than eighty years old, he walks erect, is active, cheerful, and kind. His history is known to several respectable families, who treat him with attention. Fond of conversation, he often in broken language thus relates the story of his life.

‘Olda massa ben tink he got all de work out of a Yaro bone. He tella Yaro, go free, Yaro: you have work nuff for me, go to work for you now. Tankee, massa, Yaro say; sure nuff Yaro go to work for he now: Yaro work a soon—a late—a hot—a cold—sometime he sweat, sometime he blow a finger. He got a flippeny bit—eighteenpence—git him to massa to put by—put by a dollar till it come to a heap. Oh, poor massa take sic, die—Yaro mone gone—oh, Yaro go to work again, get more dollars—work hard—more dollars—git him now to young massa, he young, he no die.—Oh, young massa den broke—den go away—oh, oh, oh! Yaro old for true, now. Must work again, worky, worky, get more dollars—git him this time to all de massa—all de massa cant die, cant go away. Oh, Yaro, dollar breed now—every spring, every fall, Yaro get dollar—chicken now.’

Day's Task.

In the year 1765, William Stanton, a day labourer to Mr. Dodfield, of Breedon, near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, threshed up-

wards of sixty bushels of pulse, between six in the morning and six in the evening of the same day, besides taking it down from the mow himself, and after it was threshed helping to winnow it; all this was done and the pulse put in bags before eight o'clock in the same night; an example of useful activity and industry which deserves to be recorded.

Slavery of Colliers.

After all the other inhabitants of Scotland had attained to the possession of personal liberty, that is, after the abolition of the barbarous law of villanage, by which the proprietors of the soil were accounted proprietors of the persons who laboured upon it, a remnant of this law still remained in the case of colliers. The character of indolence and ignorance which a state of personal slavery never fails to stamp upon the minds of those subjected to it, served in all probability to retard the progress of the art of working mineral coal. It was not till the present reign that the legislature interfered to abolish this remnant of ancient barbarism. The consequence of this abolition, however, prove in a remarkable manner how difficult it is, by the mere force of power, or legislative authority, to accomplish even the most rational changes in the ordinary practice of human affairs. It is an undoubted fact that the acquisition of freedom has, as yet, tended only in a very small degree to ameliorate the character or condition of this class of men. When the proprietors of coal mines could no longer, by means of hereditary jurisdiction, compel their workmen to remain in their service upon the footing of a right of property in their persons, they set about devising new modes of subjugating them, or of fixing them to the spot where they had previously laboured. The devices which were adopted have unhappily been such as ruined the morals of this body of labourers; while, at the same time, they have, on different occasions, greatly interrupted the public supply of that which has now become an article of the first necessity. From the time when the colliers were emancipated by the interposition of the legislature from the state of villanage, some conductors of coal works discovered, for a long period, no better methods of binding them to their service than by enticing them to plunge themselves irrecoverably into debt. They were in many cases attempted to be seduced from their former masters by more enterprising, and less scrupulous, employers. The debts contracted in the work which they were to leave were paid, and a premium superadded, while they were tempted, like the infatuated raw recruit, to spend in immediate intemperance. More money was often injudiciously lent them, in the vain hope that the deeper they were involved in debt to their new masters, the more closely would they be incited to labour, and the longer they should be constrained to remain at their new task. But, instead of this, the men, as a policy little less

low might easily have foreseen in such cases, became dispirited at the view of the scenes in which they had been so hastily, and upon their own part so unintentionally, engaged; and, at last, despairing ever to disengage them, they sunk into obstinate indolence, despondency, or profligacy; or they ran off from the mine, and repaired by themselves to some new contractor, who, though aware of their situation, winked at the trick; when discovered, perhaps paid the fatal penalty, and ensured the repetition of the same lucrative retribution against himself. Hence such frequently happened, either from the bitterness of despair, the relish for bribes and indulgences, and the habitual taste for idleness, so imprudently fostered, that they would get into their rebellious moods and refuse to work without some new bribe; or, perhaps, unless their wages be permanently increased in proportion to the increase of price which their masters may have chosen to put upon the coal itself. After all, the improving of the country is the great source of the wealth; coal working is an odious employment to human nature fond of the blue sky, the green fields; the demand for coal is increasing faster than workmen can be found to supply that demand; circumstances which attract adventurers in this branch of business to exert very imprudent exertions for the purpose of obtaining workmen.

Female Coal Bearers.

It is difficult to conceive a condition of life more wretched than that of the female coal-bearers of Scotland, of which Mr. Bald, an intelligent and experienced engineer, gives the following description in his pamphlet on the Coal Trade of Scotland. 'The bearers,' he says, 'are generally the wives and daughters of colliers, but sometimes others are hired. They leave their houses early in the morning, the mother having closely wrapped up her infant child in a blanket, and committed it to the care of an old man, who, for a small gratuity, keeps her four children at a time; and in their mother's absence, feeds them with ale, or mixed with water. The mother and her daughters then descend the pit, where their occupation is to carry immense quantities of coals on their backs in baskets. In discharging their loads, the mother sets out first, with a lighted candle in her teeth; the girls and children in this manner they proceed along the bottom of the pit; they then, with weary and slow, ascend the stairs, halting occasionally to draw breath, till they arrive at the top of the pit, where the coals are taken up for sale; and in this manner they are employed for eight or ten hours without rest. It is no uncommon thing to see them, on ascending the pit, weeping most bitterly from the excessive severity of the labour; but when they have laid down their burden on the hill, they resume their cheerfulness, and turn down the pit singing. The work

performed by a stout woman in this way is astonishing. Mr. Bald has seen two tons of coal carried in this way in a day, by burdens of one hundred and seventy pounds weight and upwards, or even as high as three hundred weight; first, one hundred and fifty yards up the slope below ground, then up the stairs of the pit one hundred and seventeen feet, and lastly, twenty yards on the hill. The wages paid for this work are eighteenpence a day, a circumstance, as Mr. Bald remarks, as surprising as the work performed. The women begin their labour generally at seven years of age, and continue it till fifty, or even sixty. It frequently happens, that the mother of a large family continues to carry coals even to within a day or two of her accouchement. This practice is unknown in England, has been discontinued at Glasgow, and prevails chiefly in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, and some other limited districts; but some families in Edinburgh having resolved not to take any coals from collieries where female bearers are employed, the practice, it is hoped, will speedily be given up.

Russian Serfs.

The peasants of the crown in Russia, and those of individuals, are strikingly different. The former are almost all in comparatively easy circumstances. Their rent is fixed at five roubles a year, all charges included; and as they are sure that it will never be raised, they are more industrious. The peasants belonging to the nobles, have their rent regulated by their means of getting money, at an average throughout the empire of eight or ten roubles. It then becomes not a rent for land, but a downright tax on industry. Each male peasant is obliged, by law, to labour three days in each week for his proprietor. This law takes effect on his arriving at the age of fifteen. If the proprietor chooses to employ him the other days, he may; as, for example, in a manufactory; but he then finds him food and clothing. Mutual advantage, however, generally relaxes this law; and, excepting such as are selected for domestic servants, or are employed in manufactories, the slave pays a certain rent, to be allowed to work all the week on his own account. If a slave exercises any trade which brings him in more money than agricultural labour, he pays a higher rent. If, by journeys to St. Petersburg, or other cities, he can still earn more, his master permits his absence, but his rent is raised. The smallest earnings are subject to this oppression. The peasants employed as drivers at the post houses, pay an *abrock*, or rent, out of the *drink money* they receive, for being permitted to drive; as otherwise, the master might employ them in other less profitable labour on his own account.

It is a common thing with travellers to speak of the indolence of the Russian peasants, and yet no people are naturally more lively, or more disposed to employment; but what incitement can there be to labour, when it is

certain that a tyrant will bereave industry of all its fruits? The only property a Russian nobleman allows his peasant to possess, is the food he cannot, or will not, eat himself. If the slave has sufficient industry or ingenuity to gain money without his knowledge, it becomes a dangerous possession; and when once discovered, falls instantly into the hands of his lord. It is thus that the subjects of a vast empire are stripped of all they possess, and exist in the most abject servitude; victims of tyranny and torture, of sorrow and poverty, of sickness and famine. Traversing the provinces south of Moscow, the land is as the garden of Eden; a fine soil covered with corn, and apparently smiling in plenty. Enter the cottage of the poor labourer, surrounded by all these riches, and you find him dying of hunger, or pining from bad food, and in want of the common necessities of life. Extensive pastures covered with cattle, afford no milk to him. In autumn, the harvest reaped by his own industry, yields no bread to his children. The lord claims all the produce.

Father of Scottish Agriculture.

William Dawson, the son of a farmer of Roxburghshire, after receiving a liberal education, was sent by his relations into England, for the purpose of obtaining a practical knowledge of the most approved English husbandry. He resided four years in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and one year in Essex, labouring with his own hands under respectable farmers. He returned to Roxburghshire in 1753, and immediately introduced the practice of the turnip husbandry, which he sowed in drills. He was the first Scottish farmer who introduced the cultivation of turnip into the open fields. Previous to this date, Mr. Cockburn, of Ormiston, had introduced them in East Lothian; and about the same period, they were tried by Lord Kaimes in Berwickshire; but practical farmers paid little attention to the enterprises of these or other *mere* gentlemen, who attempted to introduce novelties into agriculture. It was impossible for them to calculate correctly the expense attending such supposed improvements, or the profit to be derived from them. They knew, that though a rich man might throw away some money in forming a garden, adorning his pleasure ground, or introducing a new crop into some of his fields, he could suffer little by the expense, though the adventure should prove totally unprofitable; but they considered themselves in a very different situation. They had rents to pay, and families to support, by their industry; and they would have accounted themselves guilty of unpardonable rashness, had they deserted the plan by which they knew these objects could be accomplished, for the purpose of imitating wealthy men in their costly experiments and projects. But when Mr. Dawson, on the lands of which he became a tenant, and for which he paid what was accounted a full rent, began to engage in this new career, the mat-

ter was considered in a different light. He was at first regarded as a rash young man, who had imported a set of foreign notions, which, in all probability, would speedily bring him to ruin; and no practical farmer hesitated to predict this termination to his enterprises. At the same time, it was evident that if he should succeed in his operations, his neighbours must speedily change their sentiments. Thus upon the success or failure of this gentleman in his progress as a farmer, depended the fate, for many years to come, of the agriculture of Scotland. Had he been unsuccessful, his conduct would have been held up as a beacon, to warn practical farmers against imitating the costly enterprises of men of fortune, of a speculative cast of mind.

Mr. Dawson, possessing the intrepidity natural to youth, and assured of success from what he had seen in England, disregarded the prophetic suggestions of his prudent neighbours, and proceeded upon the rational plan of bringing his lands into excellent condition. This he accomplished by the turnip husbandry, by the use of artificial grasses, then also unknown in Scotland, and by the liberal use of lime, not for the purpose of scourging the soil by successive crops of oats, but to obtain the means of bringing it advantageously into grass. In short, his object was to support upon his lands a great number of cattle, and by means of them to enable a moderate proportion of the soil to give forth a larger crop of grain than had formerly been done by the whole. Every man who, in our own times, has attempted to improve an ill-cultivated and exhausted soil, must be sensible of the merit which attends success in such an enterprise, but in those days Mr. Dawson had to encounter difficulties which do not now exist. He was transferring the agriculture of one country to another, which rendered much discernment necessary to adapt the practices which he had seen to a different soil and climate. He had also this peculiar obstacle to surmount, that good ploughmen, capable of executing his operations in the perfect manner that is now done, could not be found. He was himself completely master of this essential branch of the art of agriculture, but he would have acted ill had he neglected the general superintendence of his concerns for constant occupation at the plough, more especially as his doing so could not have accomplished the object in view, with regard to the whole of his lands. Ordinary ploughmen admitted his superiority in their art, but he was provoked to find that his superiority excited no emulation on their part to equal or excel him. He found that emulation exists only among equals, and that as practical farmers disregarded the fine crops of turnips and even of grain raised by wealthy proprietors of lands, so ordinary ploughmen did not feel themselves disgraced by their inferiority to a young farmer, who had received a literary and afterwards an English education. It was nearly two years before Mr. Dawson succeeded in training an expert ploughman, but he had no sooner done so than an eager emulation to excel in the

rapidly diffused itself amongst his other vants and in the neighbourhood, so that he edily obtained many workmen not inferior himself.

Mr. Dawson's fields soon became more ile and beautiful than those around him. is his neighbours might have overlooked, as y had disregarded the fertility produced by costly efforts of proprietors of land, but his conduct had become an object of minute ention, a more important point was speedily covered, namely, that he was becoming a man. Scotsmen are never slow or un- ling to enter the path which they perceive e conducting others to the possession of ith. Mr. Dawson's neighbours now ame extremely eager to tread in his foot- os. Hinds who had been once in Mr. ason's service were always sure to find em- ment, his ploughmen were in the utmost est, they were transported to East Lothian to Angus, and everywhere diffused the roved practice of agriculture. Roxburg- e, in the meanwhile, together with the nning country of Berwick, soon became scene of the most active agricultural en- rises, and Mr. Dawson, independent of own personal prosperity, had the satisfac- to live to see himself regarded, and hear self called, the Father of the Agriculture Scotland.

Dr. Hutton.

he late Dr. Hutton, well known to men of rs for his 'Theory of the Formation and ture of the Globe,' deserves to be re- nbered on account of the services per- ed by him to mankind in an art, the ty of which is not, like his theory, at all ivalocal. Having, in the pursuit of science, avoured to study the principles of agri- re and vegetation, and being a consider- roprietor of land in the county of Ber- e, he began to turn his attention to prac- agriculture for his own advantage. Not g fully satisfied, however, with the prac- which then existed in agriculture, valu- as they were, he thought they might be improved. To obtain information on the ect he resolved to pay a visit to Norfolk, untly of light, dry soil, in several respects esponding with that of his own estate. folk had at that time attained to a high ee of excellence in all the branches of ulture, implements of practical hus- lry, &c. After residing a considerable here, and making himself completely er of every part of country business, he ailed on a Norfolk ploughman to accom- him to Scotland, taking along with him mplete set of Norfolk ploughs, turnip , and other husbandry implements. rished with all these advantages, Dr. ow began in good earnest to improve a wild and uncultivated piece of land. f it was an open field; stones were to be , fences were to be made at a great ex- e, the property being on the border of a

sheep country; and drains innumerable were to be dug. The tillage was all performed after the Norfolk manner. Dressing the land, drilling and hoeing the turnips, rolling, and all the other operations of husbandry, were done with a degree of neatness and garden- like culture which, in farming, had not been seen in Berwickshire before. Persons of every description came from all quarters to gratify their curiosity, as well as to obtain information. The profits of the undertaking are said to have amounted to six hundred per cent.

Cultivating Rocks.

Necessity, the parent of industry, has taught the natives to make a sort of artificial land in the barren parts of the island of Malta. They begin by levelling the rock, which, however, they allow to incline a little, that all superabundant water may run off. They then heap together some stones broken into small pieces of an irregular form, which they place about a foot high, and cover with a bed of the like stones nearly reduced to powder. On this they first place a bed of earth, brought either from other parts of the island or taken out of the clefts of the rocks, then a bed of dung, and afterwards a second bed of earth. Such indeed is the perse- verance of the proprietors of this ground that it becomes in time equally fertile with natural land.

English Gentlemen-Farmers.

The late John White Parsons, Esq., who died at West Camel, in Somersetshire, in 1808, was all that a gentleman-farmer should be. Unlike too many speculating monopolists, he never drove away the cultivators of fertile fields, in order to convert them into wastes and deserts. On the contrary, he came into possession of an estate which was itself little better than a desert, until he converted it, by his industry, into one of the most productive farms in England.

The lands of West Camel, about 400 acres, were for the most part a very wet, retentive, sour clay, and nearly on a level with the banks of a river. He began to calcine this clay, by burning every part of the surface, and then made drains to carry off the super- fluous water, which had before remained stagnant. These drains were so contrived as to serve for fences, and extended over the whole estate; and were wide enough to arrest the progress of those mischievous idlers called *sportsmen*. The clay thrown out of the ditches and trenches, was burnt to ashes; and after being mixed with lime, coal-ashes, sand, gravel, and road earth, and made a compost, was thrown upon the land for a manure. This essential requisite for good husbandry was still more increased, by the banks of the ditches being sloped down, to make drains for collecting the mud, by clean- ing up the bed of the river, by which a great

quantity of light compost earth was annually gained, to mix with the dung for heavy land; and by constantly burning large quantities of lime, of which 200 bushels were sufficient for an acre of tillage.

Mr. Parsons, who knew more of useful husbandry, than all the titled sheepfeeders and experimental triflers throughout the country, would never use the threshing machine, which he rejected as much from a false notion of its worthlessness, as from the natural benevolence of his heart, and his truly patriotic sentiments, which always impelled him to cherish, extend, and improve the comforts of the hardy rustic labourer. With this view, he built twenty comfortable cottages for his labourers and their families; one of whom regularly stocked a field of five acres, let to him by Mr. Parsons, with early potatoes, carrots, parsnips, &c., and furnished a decent livelihood for his family.

The Claudian Emissary.

The Claudian Emissary is one of the most stupendous works that industry ever achieved. The frequent inundation of the Fucine Lake, induced the Marsi, in whose territory it was situated, to present a petition to the emperor, praying for relief against so serious an injury. This application, which received no attention from Julius, Augustus, and Tiberius, was taken into consideration by Claudius. The work was commenced, and continued eleven years; during which time, thirty thousand men were constantly employed upon it. The canal, when finished, was not sufficiently deep to drain off the superfluous waters; orders were therefore given by the same emperor, to remedy this defect; but death prevented the termination of so grand and useful an undertaking. The length of the Emissary is estimated at three miles. It commences in the plain near the lake, traverses a mountain of solid rock, and afterwards pursues its course through the Campi Palentini, to Capistrello, where it discharges itself into the river Liris. At certain intervals were wells or apertures crossing the channel, serving a double purpose, namely, to admit air, and remove the materials as the excavation proceeded.

London Journeymen.

We have been informed (says a late writer on the subject of beggary, *Supp. Enc. Brit.*) by a gentleman whose knowledge of the circumstances and behaviour of the journeymen in the metropolis may be regarded as in a very unusual, or rather an unexampled, degree minute and correct, that of this important portion of the labouring population, no one ever begs; that such a thing as a journeyman tradesman, or any of his family, begging, is almost unknown, and may with certainty be pronounced as one of the rarest of contingent events. When it is considered to what an extraordinary degree most of the

employments by which these men earn the means of subsistence are liable to fluctuation; that thousands of them are for months together deprived of work, as was the case with thousands, for example, of the carpenters and bricklayers, during the severe winter of 1815; that of these, the whole must be reduced to the most cruel privations, and a great proportion actually starve unpitied, unheard of, and unknown; the resolution by which they abstain from begging, should be regarded as one of the most remarkable phenomena in the history of the human mind.

William Kennedy.

William Kennedy, a blind mechanic, who was born at Tanderagee, in the county of Armagh, gives the following simple narrative of himself. 'I was born,' says he, 'near Banbridge, in the county of Down, in the year 1786, and lost my sight at the age of four years. Having no other amusement (being deprived of such as children generally have), my mind turned itself to mechanical pursuits, and I shortly became projector and workman for all the children in the neighbourhood. As I increased in years, my desire for some kind of profession or employment that might render me not burthensome, though blind, induced me to think of music. At the age of thirteen I was sent to Armagh, to learn to play the fiddle; my lodging happened to be at the house of a cabinetmaker; this was a fortunate circumstance for me, as I there got such a knowledge of the tools and manner of working, as has been useful to me ever since. Though three things engaged my mind, and occupied a great part of my time, yet I made as decent a progress in music, as any other of my master, Mr. Moorhead's scholars, except one. After living a year and a quarter there, I returned home, where I made and got tools, so as to enable me to construct different pieces of household furniture. Not being satisfied with the occupation of cabinetmaker, I purchased an old set of Irish bagpipes; and without instruction, it was with difficulty I put them into playing order. I soon, however, became so well acquainted with the mechanical part of them, that instruments were brought to me from every part of the neighbourhood to be repaired. I found so many defects in this instrument, that I began to consider whether there might not be a better plan of it than any I had yet met with; and from my early instructions in music, and continued study of the instrument, for indeed I slept but little, in about nine months' time (having my tools to make) I produced the first new set. I then began clock and watch making, and soon found out a clockmaker in Banbridge, who had a desire to play on the pipes, and we mutually instructed each other. From this time I increased in musical and mechanical knowledge; but made no pipes, though I repaired many, till the year 1793, when I married, and my necessities induced me to use all my

lustry for the maintenance of my wife and rearing family; my employment for twelve years was making and repairing wind and stringed instruments of music. I also constructed clocks, both common and musical, and sometimes resorted to my first employment of a cabinetmaker. I also made linen muslins, with their different tackling. My principal employment, however, is the construction of the Irish bagpipes, of which I have made thirty in the little town I still live within these eight years past.'

Preston House of Correction.

The truly benevolent Mrs. Fry, who devotes her whole life to ameliorating the miseries of fellow-creatures, in the course of her visits to the principal prisons in the north of England and Scotland, was particularly pleased with the management of the Preston House of Correction. The governor, Mr. Liddell, who held the office since 1807, has, by his kindness, gained the hearts of his prisoners, and has contrived to provide them all with full employment.

About one thousand persons are computed to pass through this house of correction in the course of the year; and many of them learn those habits of industry, and that knowledge of a trade, by which they are enabled to maintain their families when released.

The term of imprisonment to which persons are sentenced, is of considerable length; on, they are taught on their first entry into his prison, to weave cotton; and they become such proficient in the art, that, at the end of one month, they are generally able to earn the whole amount expended for food. Those, on the other hand, who are committed for short periods, aged people, and with children at the breast, and variously employed in picking and cleaning, find an occupation not nearly so productive as it, but equally effectual in preventing idleness and destructive idleness, to which, these classes of persons are almost always exposed. With the exception of idleness, there was not, when Mrs. Fry visited the prison, one idle hand in it.

Prisoners are allowed one-fourth of their wages; no part of which, whilst they are in prison, is allowed to be given them in money; they stand in actual need of any articles of clothing, which are not allowed by the regulations; these articles are purchased for them as cheaply as possible, and the cost deducted from the amount paid to the prisoners when they are discharged. It is no unusual case for an individual, on quitting the prison, to have as much as four, five, or six pounds

added to encourage habits of industry. In order to encourage these unfortunate persons, by an additional stimulus, it is the custom of the prison to offer premiums for good conduct, and for extra work. These premiums mostly consist of a little additional food, and however

small, are found to produce a very material effect. There was one man in the prison who, although at one time distinguished for his idle habits, made a contract with the governor to behave well, and work industriously for two months, on condition of receiving, at the end of that period, two extra loaves of bread. He adhered to his agreement, and afterwards renewed it as long as he remained in the prison.

A circumstance connected with this house of correction, clearly shows the excellence of the system on which it is conducted; and that is, that the earnings of the prisoners nearly defray the whole cost of provisions consumed in the prison, and amount to more than one-half of the total disbursements.

Orphan Asylum.

The importance of ameliorating the condition of the people, becomes every day more evident; all governments are sensible of the necessity of it, but most of them are still far from placing this object in the first rank. In England, it is true, benevolence never wants a spur, when any plan is brought forward which affords even but a plausible prospect of relieving the distresses of our fellow-creatures; but everything is done on so large a scale, that the public is not aware of the good that may be effected with very limited means, and how often a single seed, planted in confidence of the blessing of heaven, has been gradually reared into a stately tree, producing the noblest fruits. Of this the following is a remarkable example.

Christopher Bucher, a Saxon by birth, had, from his youth, felt an irresistible inclination to devote himself to the education of children. His benevolence was particularly directed to orphans. Serving as an ostler at the inn at Weissenfels, he took pleasure in teaching some poor children, and often went to talk upon subjects of education with the clergyman of his village, who encouraged him to follow his impulse.

In the course of time, he acquired, by his industry, the sum of a hundred florins (about ten pounds), two carts, and three horses. He happened to break a wheel in the village of Langendorff, and this accident appeared to him to be an invitation of Providence to begin in this place the execution of his favourite project. The plan for building an orphan-house was soon fixed upon. Two workmen, who assisted him in building, were the first benefactors to the intended establishment, one giving twelve groschen (eighteen-pence), and the other ten groschen. A gardener, of the name of Dunkel, joined in this good work; he put the garden in order, and planted a vine.

It was with such slender means, but with confidence in God, that Bucher commenced what he had so long considered as the object of his existence in this world. In 1712 he took up his abode here with four orphans.

Pray and work; this was his principle;

according to this he regulated the habits of his pupils, that they might, above all things, imbibes the fear of God, and then, that they might learn to provide themselves for all their wants. Instruction, according to him, should tend to give to man, the knowledge and the use of his own powers. These principles, which he exemplified by practice, produced the happiest effect. Poor, but ardent in the cause, Bucher made his project succeed. In 1720 his pupils amounted to fifty-one; and he then received some assistance from the Duke of Weissenfels; and a hundred crowns per annum, with an exemption from certain taxes from the Elector of Saxony. Dunkel, the gardener, remained faithful during his life to his first resolution, and bequeathed to the establishment the fruits of his savings.

Bucher died in 1729, when the simple and just ideas which had guided him, were abandoned; and it was not until the year 1811 that the spirit of the founder resumed its influence. At this period, the orphans of Langendorff were united with those of Torgau, and the two combined establishments were placed under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Wurker.

In 1819 the number of pupils were a hundred and sixty, ninety-eight boys, and sixty-two girls. The former cultivate a piece of ground of a hundred and thirty acres, and make their own clothes, and most of the instruments they use. The girls are employed in the internal economy, and in the labours belonging to their sex. The education of the whole is directed by the influence of the good examples which they receive from their superiors, and give to each other without any emulation but that which proceeds from the desire of doing well, having neither rewards nor punishments. Idleness is represented to them as the most dangerous enemy to man; and this is a maxim which they soon comprehend, because all the produce of their labour is employed in increasing their own comforts. They are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, with a little geography and history. Religious instruction is particularly attended to. Most of the teachers have formerly been pupils in the establishment, and are assisted in their functions by the eldest of the present pupils; who, together with the directors, keep the books, and make the reports to the government. At the age of fifteen, they may quit the house, and choose themselves a profession; but they still continue their connexion with the director, who pays for their apprenticeship on account of the establishment. The girls are put out to service in good families, and keep up, until they are of age, a correspondence with the director, a highly respectable man, and, indeed, their father; a name by which the teachers, as well as the pupils, call him.

Madhouse at Aversa.

The asylum for lunatics at Aversa, in the kingdom of Naples, may be classed among the principal institutions of useful arts and manufactures. M. Linguitti, director of this

hospital, which is the only one of its kind in Europe, makes continued experiments to cure these unhappy people; from which he always obtains the result, that moderate work, combined with agreeable amusement, is the best means. For this reason, he has at this house a printing-office, where several works have already been printed, and at which many of these unhappy people are employed. Others who, after the paroxysm is over, recover for a short time the use of their reason, are engaged in making translations from the English and French, into the Italian language. Besides this, many are occupied with music, others in husbandry, and a variety of employments, but particularly in a manufactory of woollen cloth.

By these means, this miserable class of people, once an incumbrance to their families and the state, become useful to society, and put many idlers to the blush.

Mr. Guy.

Mr. Guy, the founder of the hospital which bears his name, amassed an immense fortune, solely by his industry and frugality. He was the son of a lighterman and coal dealer in Horselydown, and was apprenticed to a bookseller. He began business with a stock of the value of about two hundred pounds, in the house which still forms the angle between Cornhill and Lombard Street. English Bibles being at that time indifferently printed, he engaged in a scheme for printing them in Holland, and importing them into this country; but this practice proving detrimental to the university, and the king's printer, they employed all possible means to suppress it; and so far succeeded, that Mr. Guy found it his interest to enter into a contract with them, and in consequence, enjoyed a very extensive and lucrative trade. Being a single man, he spent a very small portion of his profits; he dined on his counter, with no other tablecloth than a newspaper, and was not more nice about his apparel. But a still more profitable concern than his trade was opened to his active mind during Queen Anne's wars, when he is said to have acquired the bulk of his fortune, by the purchase of seamen's tickets. For the application of this fortune to charitable uses, the public are indebted to a trifling circumstance. He employed a female servant, whom he had agreed to marry. Some days previous to the intended ceremony, he had ordered the pavement before his door to be mended up to a particular stone, which he had marked, and then left his house on business. This servant, in his absence, looking at the workmen, saw a broken stone beyond this mark, which they had not repaired; and on pointing to it with that design, they acquainted her that Mr. Guy had not ordered them to go so far. She, however, directed it to be done, adding, with the security incidental to her expectation of soon becoming his wife, 'Tell him I have done it, and he will not be angry.' But she too

on learnt how fatal it was for anyone in a pendent situation, to exceed the limits of air authority : for her master, on his return, is enraged at finding that the workmen had gone beyond his orders, broke off his engagement to the servant, and devoted his ample fortune to public charity.

Inventor of the Laurencekirk Snuff-Boxes.

In the town of Alyth, in Scotland, there lived a man of much personal celebrity, the name of James Sandy. The originality of genius, and eccentricity of character, which distinguished this person, have been rarely surpassed. Deprived at an early age of the use of his legs, he contrived, by dint of ingenuity, not only to pass his time agreeably, but to render himself an useful member of society. He soon displayed a taste for chancal pursuits : and contrived, as a workshop for his operations, a sort of circular table, the sides of which being raised about fifteen inches above the clothes, were employed as a platform for turning-lathes, tables, and cases for tools of all kinds. His genius for practical mechanics was universal. He was skilled in all sorts of turning, and instructed several very curious lathes, as well as clocks and musical instruments of every description, no less admired for the sweetness of their tone, than the elegance of their execution. He excelled, too, in the construction of optical instruments, and made some reflecting telescopes, the specula of which were not inferior to those finished by the most eminent London artists. He suggested some important improvements in the machinery for spinning flax ; and he was the first who made the wooden-jointed snuff-boxes generally called Laurencekirk boxes, some of which, fabricated by this self-taught artist, were purchased and sent as presents to the royal family. To his other endowments, he added accurate knowledge of drawing and engraving, and in both these arts produced specimens of the highest excellence. Forwards of fifty years he quitted his bed only once in ten times, and on these occasions his house was either inundated with water, or threatened with danger from fire. His curiosity, which was unbounded, prompted him to hatch different kinds of bird's eggs by the natural warmth of his body, and he afterwards reared a motley brood, with all the tenderness of a parent ; so that, on visiting him, it was no unusual thing to see various singing birds, to which he may be said to have given birth, perched on his head, and warbling the artificial notes he had taught them. Naturally possessed of a good constitution, and a lively, cheerful turn of mind, his house was the general coffee-room of the village, where the affairs of both church and state were discussed with the utmost freedom. In consequence of long confinement, his countenance rather a sickly cast ; but it was remark-

ably expressive, particularly when he was surrounded by his country friends. This singular man had acquired by his ingenuity and industry, an honourable independence, and died possessed of considerable property. He married about three weeks before his death.

Spider Thread.

It had long been a question among philosophers, whether it was possible to render the labours of the spider subservient to the benefit of mankind. In the earlier part of the last century, this question was partially solved by M. Bon of Languedoc, who fabricated a pair of stockings, and a pair of gloves, from the threads of spiders. They were nearly as strong as silk, and of a beautiful grey colour.

The predatory habits of the spider, however, would seem to oppose an effectual barrier to their being bred up in sufficient numbers to render such a manufactory at all productive. The following arguments against the probability of any permanent or real advantage resulting from this attempt, were published by Reaumur, whom the Royal Academy had deputed to inquire into the matter.

The natural fierceness of spiders renders them unfit to be bred and kept together. Four or five thousand being distributed in cells, fifty in some, one or two hundred in others, the big ones soon killed and eat the smaller ones, so that in a short time there were scarcely above one or two left in each cell ; and to this inclination of devouring their own species is attributed the scarcity of spiders, when compared with the vast number of eggs they lay. Reaumur also affirms, that the web of the spider is inferior in strength and lustre to that of the silkworm, and produces less of the material fit for use. The thread of the spider's web can only bear a weight of two grains without breaking ; and the bag sustains the weight of thirty-six grains. The thread of a silkworm will bear two grains and a half, so that five threads of the spider are necessary to form a cord equal to that of a silkworm ; and as it would be impossible to apply these so closely together, as to avoid leaving any empty space, from which the light would not be reflected, the lustre would consequently be considerably less. This was noticed at the time the stockings were presented to the society by M. de la Hire. It was further observed, that spiders afford less silk than silkworms, the largest bags of the latter weighing four grains, the smaller three grains, so that 2304 worms produce one pound of silk. The bags of a spider weigh about one grain ; when cleared of the dust and filth, they lose about two-thirds of that weight. The work of twelve spiders, therefore, only equals that of one silkworm ; and a pound of silk will require, at least, 27,648 spiders. But as the bags are solely the work of the females, who spin them to deposit their

eggs in, there must be kept 55,296 spiders to yield one pound of silk; and this will apply to the good ones only, the spiders in gardens barely yielding a twelfth part of the silk of the domestic kinds. Two hundred and eighty of them would not produce more than one silk-worm; and 663,555 such spiders, would scarcely yield a pound of silk!

Services Rendered to Agriculture by Women.

The perfection which agriculture, the first and most important of all industrious pursuits, has attained, has not been confined to man alone; in this he has been assisted by that partner which the Eternal, in the height of his beneficence, has given him, to share his labours, to alleviate his pains, and to embellish his life. Indeed, by opening the annals of the world, and by reverting to the most distant periods of time, we shall perceive through the glimmering light which succeeds the darkness of unknown centuries, that women, so well designated by Madame Bourdie in her epistle to the men, as 'the flower of the human species,' has had in all ages a direct share in the progress of agriculture.

By raising up the veil which fiction and heathenism have placed between us and truth, we shall see, in a very remote background, history pointing to Isis, and saying, 'she was Queen of Egypt.'

While Osiris was dictating laws to the Egyptians, Isis, his wife, was giving them those precepts of agriculture, which rendered his dominions the richest in the universe. Isis had chosen the ox as her type, on account of its great usefulness in agriculture; from hence the Egyptians fancied, that the soul of that princess had, after her death, animated the ox; and, impelled by this idea, they exalted that useful animal to the rank of a deity.

There are still extant several statues of Isis, which represent her with the body of a woman, and the head of an ox; and we know of several monuments, on which their numerous inscriptions witness what an idea those people who had adopted the worship of Isis, entertained of their deity.

If we continue in our attempts to dispel the clouds which fable and superstition have raised around truth, we shall find in Sicily a queen, who conferred the greatest benefits on mankind by giving them lessons of agriculture, by making them acquainted with the use of corn, and with the mode of cultivating it. That Queen is Ceres, whom the ancients, by an allegory equally just and ingenious, have represented as mother of Plutus; meaning, unquestionably, that agriculture is the source of all riches.

The Greeks, who personified all received favours, as they deified all virtues, wishing to perpetuate their gratitude to the Queen of Sicily, made her the goddess of agriculture and harvest.

These facts, purified from the dross of fable and mythology, prove that the two best cultivated countries, whose fruitfulness was envied by all others, were indebted to women for their fertility. How many more instances could be here adduced! We might name Minerva, Queen of Athens, who brought her subjects acquainted with the olive tree, and the use of its fruit; and who made them cultivate the land, instead of following piracy, which she suppressed. The honours of apotheosis conferred on Flora, on Pomona, on Pales, Perenna, Bubona, Mellona, Vellonia, &c. afford just ground to believe, that all these women rendered services to agriculture.

In Sparta, while the men were fighting for their country, the women were cultivating the soil. In the Isle-Dyeux, or Isle-Dien, belonging to the department of La Vendée, the men are exclusively employed in navigation, fisheries, &c.; and the women, from time out of mind, have taken upon themselves all the agricultural labours of the island.

Among almost all savage nations, the men have enjoyed the pleasures of hunting, while the women were performing all the business of agriculture.

In the first centuries of the Roman republic, the care of the kitchen-garden was intrusted to the mother of the family.

It is to an empress of China that we are indebted for the culture of the mulberry-tree, and the rearing of silkworms.

Isabella, sister to Charles V., married to the unfortunate Christian, King of Denmark, made the Danes adopt the use of garden vegetables; and taught them that mode of culture by her own example.

Marie Sybille de Merian braved the dangers of a long and disagreeable voyage, to study botany in Surinam; from whence she brought a figured herbal, forming a large quarto volume.

Mademoiselle Linnæus, daughter to the celebrated professor of the Upsal university, assisted her father in his immortal work.

The charming Hydrangea, so well known under the name of Hortensia, is a new tribute paid by Commerson to the talents and memory of Mademoiselle Hortense de Paulte.

Elizabeth Blackwall has published a work on botany, in six volumes folio, with figured plants, which is held in great estimation by the learned.

Madame Victorine de Chatenay has published a work in three volumes, entitled, 'Le Calendrier de Flore' (Flora's Calendar), which are united correctness as to facts, with that peculiar grace of epistolary style which is so peculiar to the sex.

Madame de Genlis, whose name is above all praise, has written, with her usual eloquence, several articles on botany.

The charming garden at Kew, one of the first, one of the handsomest, and one of the most luxuriant of those landscape gardens which the English have imitated from the Chinese, was created by a Princess of Wales.

Stocking Knitting.

about the beginning of the last century, were very generally kept along the h-eastern parts of Scotland, particularly in the shires, and every little farmer took to have the wool of his small flock spun into a kind of coarse yarn in his own family, which was afterwards woven by country weavers, and sold at the markets to pedlars, who distributed it over the rest of Scotland. As the taste for finery banished this manufacture, in its stead, the women fell into the habit of spinning worsted yarn, and knitting it into stockings, chiefly for foreign sale. The quantity of wool required to furnish materials for this manufacture, the fineness of its quality, and the necessity of having it as nearly uniform as possible, made it necessary to abandon the use of the native sheep, and to procure foreign wool of a proper kind in its place, as the native sheep had no waste. The demand for the wool of the native sheep being thus lessened, and increasing with other causes, made this stock of wool to be gradually diminished, and the whole of the wool manufactured into stockings came at last to be imported from England.

It became, also, a business to have the stockings combed; it was then given out by the spinner, to the women in every corner of the country, who returned it to the merchant at a fixed time in wrought hose, which he afterwards caused to be properly dressed and prepared for the market. In this way the manufacture spread wide throughout the north of Scotland, and *Aberdeen hose* became an article of great importance in the markets. The master manufacturers, or rather dealers, enriched by this means great wealth; and vast sums of money were thus brought into the country. Women of all ages were seen everywhere walking from place to place, employed in knitting; for which they took up all other employments; and even men and men often engaged in this effeminate work, because of the ease with which it enabled them to earn a moderate subsistence. The branch of manufacture, however, from the change in the taste of the consumers, and the introduction of the stocking frame, has for some time past on the decline; and is now almost abandoned. It is said, that now a man employed at this work cannot, with the best application, earn more than eighteen pence a week.

French Manufactures.

Many years ago the spinning of cotton by machinery was not practised in France, still less of hemp and flax. Since that time, the most perfect kind of machinery has been introduced into several establishments, which supply all the wants, except a small quantity of fine thread, which is smuggled into the country from abroad, and which supplies the fine manufactures of Tarare and St. Quentin. In considering the obstacles, the prejudices,

which impeded the introduction of this machinery into France, M. Chaptal, in his Essay, 'De l'Industrie Française,' says, it is a matter of astonishment that it has been brought to such perfection; and that it is a prodigy which does as much honour to the French character, as the victories obtained by their armies. Machines have produced a great revolution in manufactures, the produce of which was formerly calculated by the number of hands employed; but now the extent of the industry of a country is in proportion to the number of machines, and not to the amount of the population.

The increase of machinery in Europe, has changed the nature of commerce in India, whence all the manufactured cottons were formerly imported. To employ the hands which were engaged in their manufacture, the English government has applied them to the cultivation of the sugar cane, and other articles furnished by the West India islands. The abolition of the slave trade will greatly facilitate the propagation of this branch of industry in India.

The present regulations for manufactories in France, might serve as a pattern for many countries in Europe. Every workman is obliged to keep a small book, which is given to him on finishing his apprenticeship. This book he must produce when he is admitted into any manufactory; and it remains in the hands of the master till the workman is desirous of seeking employment elsewhere; when the master, if he has any complaints to make, enters them in this book. This very simple method prevents both vagrancy and misconduct. The fetters which shackled manufacturers, have been removed; but authority has preserved, and even increased, the power which it possessed over the manufacturing population. Hence those combinations and mutinies of workmen, which so seriously compromise the public tranquillity, and the property of masters, are almost unknown in France.

There is also another institution which contributes not a little to the maintenance of order. In each manufacturing town there is a board or committee, called *Conseil de Prudhommes*; which decides, without delay or expense, all disputes that arise between masters and their workmen. In the course of the year 1820, the *Conseil de Prudhommes* of Rouen adjusted matters in twelve hundred out of thirteen hundred cases that came before it; and in the remaining hundred, pronounced decisions against which the parties have not appealed.

French Farmer's Wife.

The farmer's wife, *fermière*, (says M. de Cubières) bestows her attention and her daily cares on whatever is connected with the administration of the farm. She inspects the dovecote, the farm-yard, the stalls, the dairy, the orchard, &c. She sells the vegetables, the fruit, the produce of the dairy, eggs and their

fleeces; to her is entrusted the gathering of hemp and flax, with the first operations these plants undergo; in the southern countries, she has also under her management the important business of rearing silkworms, and the sale of their produce.

She knows how to excite workmen to their labour; to the lazy she gives a new life by friendly remonstrances; and, at the same time, she supports by her praises the zeal of the most laborious.

She knows how to inspire awe, by a studied silence, and to insure obedience by the mildness of command; she renders all her labourers faithful, by bestowing on them a due share of her confidence.

It is she who presides daily at the preparation of their food; in their sickness she attends them with maternal care; on the days of rest she excites them to rural sports.

In short, surrounded by her labourers, by her husband, by her children, who form her principal riches, she enjoys that felicity which springs from benevolence; she is happy in the happiness she confers on others; and that large family, free from fear, from cupidity, from ambition, leads a happy and peaceful life.

Prussian Agriculture.

The King of Prussia, anxious to extend and improve the agriculture of his dominions, invited Von Thaer, who resided near Luneberg, to settle in his kingdom, and assist in diffusing agricultural knowledge. The estate of Moegelin was given to him to improve and manage as a pattern farm. It consists of about 1200 English acres. At that time the annual value was estimated at 2000 rix dollars, but it is now supposed to be worth 12,000. This Royal Institution, of which Von Thaer is the director, has three professors besides himself, who by their lectures and the example of the farm of Moegelin, have diffused much important information relating to agriculture.

Mr. Jacob, in his 'View of the Agriculture, Manufactures, &c., of Germany, Holland, and France,' gives the following interesting account of the system adopted by this great agriculturist:—

'The favourite article of cultivation with Von Thaer is potatoes, on which he sets a peculiarly high value. His mode is simple and easy; they are planted in rows after the plough, at the rate of sixteen bushels to the acre. When the plants are up they are carted with a double-breasted plough, first parallel to the rows in which they are planted, and then with the same plough the furrows are crossed, thus leaving the potatoes in small square patches. When at maturity the soil is turned up with a three-pronged fork, and all the roots carefully collected by women and children. The stalks are far more abundant than those of our potatoes, and yield, I should think, from what I saw, as four to one. This haulm is carefully turned, dried, and collected into stacks, and is used as litter for

the horses and cows, instead of straw, which is here converted into food by cutting it small.

'Like all his countrymen, Von Thaer prefers German small potatoes to our large ones; they are less mealy, and have a different flavour. His preference, if his facts are correct, of which I have no doubt, is certainly supported by better reasons than I have heard from any other person in this country. He contended, that the nutritive quality of the potato depends on the quantity of starch that it contains; that, upon analysis, the smaller kind of potatoes that are here cultivated, contain a far greater proportion of starch than any that grow to a larger size; that beyond a certain size, which, by giving the roots sufficient room, they will naturally attain, the increase is only water, and can scarcely be termed nutriment.

'The average produce of his potatoes in a series of years has been three hundred bushels to the acre; this he compared with what I stated to be the average weight of an acre of turnips on good land, as well cultivated as his is, in England; and which I stated below the truth, at twenty tons, because I wished not to be suspected of exaggeration to support an hypothesis. He contended that his average growth of three hundred bushels, or five tons of potatoes, contained more nutriment than twenty tons of turnips, because the proportion of starch in potatoes to that in turnips was much more than four to one. I did not urge the quantity of mucilage in the turnip, because I wished to learn his views, rather than to suggest my own.

'A brewery and distillery are the necessary accompaniments of every large farming establishment in Germany. The result of many experiments in the latter proved that the same quantity of alcohol is produced from one hundred bushels of potatoes, as from twenty-four bushels of wheat, or thirty-three of barley. As the products of grain or of potatoes are relatively greater, the distillery is regulated by that proportion. The different inventions for economy in the use of fuel, cheap as it is, both in the brewery and distillery, though highly useful to the pupils of the establishment, presented to me nothing of novelty in either their principle or their application.

'During the existence of the foolish continental system, the scarcity of sugar gave rise to many experiments here, which, though beneficial at the time, have ceased to be longer useful. Von Thaer found, after many trials, that the most profitable vegetable from which sugar could be made, was the common garden turnip (of which species I did not ascertain), and that whilst sugar was sold at a rix dollar the pound, it was very profitable to extract it from that root. The samples of sugar made during that period from different roots, the processes, and their results, are carefully preserved in the museum, but would now be tedious to describe. They are certainly equal in strength and sweetness, and those refined, in colour and hardness, to any produced from the sugar-cane of the tropics.

* An important object of this establishment has been the improvement of the breed of sheep, which, as far as regards the fineness of the wool, has admirably succeeded. By various crosses from select merinos, by sedulously excluding from the flock every ewe that had coarse wool, and, still more, by keeping them in a warm house during the winter, Von Thaer has brought the wool of his sheep to a great fineness, far greater than any that is produced in Spain; but the improvement of the carcass has been neglected, so that his, like other German mutton, is very indifferent.

England, where the flesh is of much more value than the fleece, the merino breeding has not been attended with beneficial results. The fleeces of the Moegelin flock (the name of Von Thaer's farm) average about three pounds and a half each; they have been sold to English traders, who came to the spot at the period to purchase them, as high as eight shillings and sixpence per pound, whilst the whole flesh could not be sold for more than three or twelve shillings. This statement will readily account for the fact that though merino sheep are very beneficial in Prussia and Saxony, they have been found unprofitable with us.

Von Thaer, with the assistance of the professors of the institution over which he presides, has arranged the various kinds of wool cards, and discriminated, with geometrical exactness, the fineness of that produced from different races of sheep. The finest are some specimens from Saxony: his own are the next. A fine Spanish wool from Leon is inferior to his in the proportion of eleven to sixteen. The wool from Botany Bay, of which he had specimens, is inferior to the Spanish. He had arranged, by a similar mode, the relative fineness of the wools produced on the different parts of the body of the sheep, so as to bring under the eye at one view the comparative value of the different parts of the fleeces; he had also ascertained the proportioned weight of those different parts. The application of optics and geometry, by which the measures that accompany the specimens are conducted, is such as to leave no doubts on any point of the accuracy of the results. The measures, indeed, show only the fineness, and not the length of the fibre, which is, I believe, of considerable importance in the process of spinning. The celebrity of the Moegelin flock is so widely diffused that the ewes and lambs are sold at enormous prices to the agriculturists in East Prussia, Poland, and as far as Russia.

The various implements used on the farm are all made by smiths, wheelers, and carvers, residing round the institution; the shops are open to the pupils, and they are encouraged by attentive inspection, to become masters of the more minute branches of the economy of an estate.

Hungarian Peasantry.

It is difficult to conceive a state of greater degradation, or more abject slavery,

than that of the peasantry in Hungary; the worst period of English villanage was never half so oppressive; and the state of the serfs of Russia is one of freedom and happiness, compared with that of the Hungarian peasant; the Russian serf does his quantity of labour, and ensures support and protection in sickness and in age; but not so the wretched Hungarian, who may always be dismissed at the will of his lord.

The peasants in Hungary were formerly bound to perform indefinite services, until Maria Theresa put the whole under regulations, by fixing the quantity of land upon each estate, which was to remain irrevocably in the possession of the peasantry, giving to each peasant his portion, called a *Session*, and describing the services which should be required of him by his lord in return. The quantity of land varies from twenty to thirty acres, according to the quality of the soil. The services required of the father of the family are one hundred and four days during the year, if he work without cattle; or fifty-two days, if he bring two horses or oxen; or four, if necessary with ploughs and carts. Besides this, he must give four fowls and twelve eggs, and one pound and a half of butter: and every thirty peasants must give one calf yearly. He must also pay a florin for his house, must cut and bring home a klaster of wood; must spin in his family six pfund of wool or hemp, provided by his lord; and among four peasants, he also claims what is called a long journey, that is, they must transport twenty centvers, each one hundred pounds weight, the distance of two days' journey out and home; and besides all this, each peasant must pay one-tenth of the products of his industry to the church, and one-ninth to the lord.

These services, heavy as they are, form not the whole of the claims on the peasantry, who pay tribute from which their lords are exempt, maintain all the soldiers that pass through the country, execute all the public works, such as roads, bridges, &c.: in fact, it can safely be said, that there is no limit to the services which they are compelled to perform. What aggravates these grievances a thousand-fold is, that the Hungarian peasant is subject to stripes and imprisonment at the will of his lord, who too often exercises his authority with unsparing cruelty.

What the consequences of so debasing a system must be, it is easy to foretell; 'but look on that picture, and on this,' and see the beneficial effects which an enfranchisement of the vassals instantaneously produces.

Count Festitis having purchased an estate in the Murakos, a tract of country between the Muhr and the Drave, he granted lands to the peasants at a fixed annual rent, a few only remaining on the common tenure of service. In these free villages, the value of land has risen to such a degree, that the owner of four acres is esteemed wealthy, and the population has increased from fifty families to six hundred. Although still subject to the Government duties, and suffering from the

effects of two bad seasons and an inundation of the Drave, these peasants were, in 1814, striving cheerfully with the difficulties of their situation, while their neighbours on the common footing, although each family possessed thirty acres, were reduced to subsist on the tardy bounty of their lord. These free villagers also afforded an exception to the general dishonesty of the Hungarian peasantry; their household furniture is often exposed on the outside of their cottages, and does not even require the protection of the large dogs common in the rest of the country.

German Redemptioners.

The misery of the people of Germany and Switzerland, principally occasioned by the oppressions they suffer, has served for aliment to the service of men, who do not hesitate to establish their criminal projects upon bases almost as obnoxious as those of the former slave trade. Numerous unhappy persons have been thus seduced to expatriate themselves, in the hope of finding a happier lot upon the shores of the new world; and have actually sold themselves to a term of slavery, as a compensation for their passage.

In the month of August, 1818, an expedition of this kind was fitted out from Amsterdam, the passengers of which had agreed with the mercenary captain on the following odious terms.

'We, passengers, promise to fulfil faithfully the following conditions:—With respect to the price of the passage above stipulated, for so much as we have not yet paid, we engage to gain by our labour in America what we owe; and we who owe the whole amount of our passage, are bound, if required, and if we are unable to find better conditions, to hire ourselves for four or five years, in order to pay for our passage: and we who have only paid for a part of our passage, equally promise to let ourselves out to work for the same time, for the sum we still owe.

'We promise besides, we passengers, men or women, fathers or mothers, children and families, here assembled, the children for their parents, the parents for their children, the brother for his brother, and the sister for her sister, when we shall find an opportunity to employ ourselves in America, to engage ourselves in service, and to answer one for the other, one for all the others, whether he be of our family or not, so that the price of the passage be diminished or augmented as much as shall be necessary, until we all and our families have employment, and the captain be no loser by us; knowing very well that we passengers who have children, a family, brothers, and sisters, ought all to submit to our wives or husbands, our children, our brothers, our sisters, being sent separately to whatever place, in order to gain, in private service, profession, or labour, or in any manner that shall be deemed the best, the price of our passage; and in order that we may not in any case refuse the engagements proposed to us, or

contract others without the permission or knowledge of the captain, it is agreed for those who have not paid for their passage, for those who still owe part, and for those who cannot find an engagement, that they must consent to me, the captain, carrying them to such place in America as it shall please me, and wherever I may find it expedient to proceed, or wherever it may suit me to sail!'

These horrible conditions were signed by three hundred passengers. They had contracted with the captain of a Dutch ship, which was to proceed first to Baltimore. She was in the worst state when she sailed from Amsterdam; and in defiance of the clauses of the contract, by which the captain had engaged to feed them properly during the voyage, he had not even embarked the necessary quantity of provisions; for, after sixty-two days' navigation, the leaks had so gained upon the ship, that she was in danger of sinking, and famine had already made frightful ravages. It was at the end of that time, and in this deplorable condition, that she was forced into Belem, near Lisbon.

Long before her arrival on the coast, the passengers had been reduced to the greatest misery, not more by the small quantity than by the bad quality of the provisions. The water was gone, and seawater was their only drink. So much had they been wasted, that forty had already died of famine. Among the rest there were a great many sick, some of whom died soon after their arrival in Portugal.

Miserable as the situation of these poor creatures was, yet the kindness of the Regency of Lisbon, who furnished them with provisions and other succours at the expense of the state, rendered it quite as comfortable as if they had reached their destination. A recent traveller in the United States, speaking of this subject, gives the following afflicting details:—

'A practice which has been often referred to in connexion with this country, naturally excited my attention. It is that of individuals emigrating from Europe without money, and paying for their passage by binding themselves to the captain, who receives the produce of their labour for a certain number of years.

'Seeing the following advertisement in the newspapers, put in by the captain and owner of the vessel referred to, I visited the ship:—

"THE PASSENGERS

"On board the brig *Bubona*, from Amsterdam, and who are willing to engage themselves for a limited time, to defray the expenses of their passage, consist of persons of the following occupations, besides women and children, viz.: thirteen farmers, two bakers, two butchers, eight weavers, three tailors, one gardener, three masons, one mill-sawyer, one white-smith, two shoe-makers, three cabinet-makers, one coal-burner, one barber, one carpenter, one stocking-weaver, one cooper, one wheelwright, one brewer, one locksmith. Apply on board of the *Bubona*, opposite Callowhill Street, in the river Delaware; or

to W. Odlin and Co., No. 38, South Wharves.—
—Oct. 2.”

‘As we ascended the side of this hulk, a most revolting scene of want and misery presented itself. The eye involuntarily turned for some relief from the horrible picture of human suffering which this living sepulchre afforded. Mr. — inquired if there were any shoemakers on board. The captain advanced; his appearance bespoke his office; he is an American, tall, determined, and with an eye that flashes with Algerine cruelty. He talked in the Dutch language for shoemakers, and never can I forget the scene which followed. The poor fellows came running up with unspeakable delight, no doubt anticipating a relief from their loathsome dungeon. Their clothes, if rags deserve that denomination, actually perfumed the air. Some were without shirts; others had this article of dress, at of a quality as coarse as the worst packing cloth. I inquired of several if they could speak English. They smiled, and gabbled, ‘No Engly, no Engly, one Engly talk ship.’ The deck was filthy. The cooking, washing, and scullery departments were close together. Such is the mercenary barbarity of the Americans who are engaged in this trade, that they jammed into one of those vessels five hundred passengers, eighty of whom died on the passage. The price for women is about twenty dollars; men, eighty dollars; boys, forty dollars. When they saw at our departure that we had not purchased, their countenances fell to that standard of stupid gloom, which seemed to place them a link below rational beings.’

Alpine Farmers.

The farmers of the Upper Alps, though by means wealthy, live like lords in their houses, while the heaviest portion of agricultural labour devolves on the wife. It is no common thing to see a woman yoked to the plough along with an ass, while the husband idles it. A farmer of the Upper Alps accounts it an act of politeness to lend his wife a neighbour who is too much oppressed with work; and the neighbour, in his turn, lends his wife for a few days' work, whenever favour is requested.

Thread Manufacture.

One of the last trials in Scotland for witchcraft occurred in the parish of Erskine, in Inverclyde. The person supposed to have been bewitched, or tormented, by the miseries wretches believed to be in compact with the devil, was a Miss Christian Shaw, daughter of John Shaw, of Bargarren. This young girl, to the surprise, no doubt, of her good neighbours, survived the machinations of the witch and his accomplices; and having afterwards acquired a remarkable dexterity in spinning fine yarn, she conceived the idea of manufacturing it into thread. Her first attempts in this way were necessarily on a small

scale. She executed almost every part of the process with her own hands, and bleached her materials on a large slate placed in one of the windows of the house. She succeeded, however, so well in these trials, as to have sufficient encouragement to go on, and to take the assistance of her younger sisters and neighbours. The then Lady Blantyre carried a parcel of her thread to Bath, and disposed of it advantageously to some manufacturers of lace; and this was probably the first thread made in Scotland that had crossed the Tweed. About this time a person who was connected with the family happening to be in Holland, found means to learn the secrets of the thread manufacture, which was then carried on to a great extent in that country, particularly the art of sorting and numbering the threads of different sizes, and packing them up for sale, and the construction and management of the twisting and twining machines. This knowledge he communicated on his return to his friends in Bargarren; and by means of it they were enabled to conduct their manufacture with more regularity, and to a greater extent. The young women in the neighbourhood were taught to spin fine yarn, twining mills were erected, correspondences were established, and a profitable business was carried on. Bargarren thread became extensively known, and being ascertained by a stamp, bore a good price. From the instructions of the family of Bargarren, a few families in the neighbourhood engaged in the same business, and continued in it for a number of years. It was not to be expected, however, that a manufacture of that kind could be confined to so small a district, or would be allowed to remain in so few hands for a great length of time. The secrets of the business were gradually divulged by apprentices and assistants. A Mr. Pollock, in Paisley, established a manufacture of the same sort, which was speedily followed by others.

The Bargarren and Paisley thread was that sort known to merchants by the name of *ounce third*, as distinguished from the kinds which have been prepared chiefly at Dundee and Aberdeen.

Cachmere Shawls.

The manufacture of shawls at Cachmere, which supplies all the world with a splendid article of dress, furnishes employment to the industry of nearly fifty thousand individuals. It would perhaps be difficult to determine with accuracy the quantity of shawls manufactured annually; but the number of looms employed is said to be sixteen thousand, and supposing five shawls are on an average made at each loom, it would give eighty thousand in the course of the year.

A shop may be occupied with one shawl, provided it be a remarkably fine one, above a year, while other shops make six or eight in the course of that period. Of the best and most worked kinds, not so much as a quarter of an inch is completed in one day by three

people, which is the usual number employed at most of the shops. Shawls containing much work are made in separate pieces at different shops; and it may be observed, that it very rarely happens that the pieces, when completed, correspond in size.

The shops consist of a framework, at which the persons employed sit on a bench; their number is from two to four. On plain shawls two people alone are employed, and a long, narrow, but heavy shuttle is used; those of which the pattern is variegated are worked with wooden needles, there being a separate needle for the thread of each colour, and without the aid of a shuttle. The operation of their manufacture is of course slow, proportionate to the quantity of work which their patterns may require.

The women and children pick out the fine wool from the coarse hair, and other heterogeneous matter, which is afterwards carded by young girls with their fingers on India muslin, to lengthen the fibre and clean it from dirt, and in this state it is delivered to the dyers and spinners. The loom that is used is very simple and horizontal; the weaver sits on the bench, a child is placed below him with his eyes on the pattern, and gives him notice, after every throw of the shuttle, of the colours wanted, and the bobbins to be next employed.

The Oostaud, or head workman, superintends, while his journeymen are employed near him immediately under his directions. If they have any new pattern in hand, or one with which they are not familiar, he describes to them the figures, colours, and threads which they are to use, while he keeps before them the pattern on which they happen to be employed, drawn upon paper. During the operation of manufacturing, the right side of the shawl is uppermost on the frame; notwithstanding which, the Oostaud never mistakes the regularity of the most figured piece.

The wages of the head workmen (the employer furnishing the materials) are from six to eight pice per day; of the common workmen, from one to four pice; which currency in Cachmere may be valued at three-halfpence each. When a merchant enters into the trade he frequently engages several shops, which he collects in a spot under his own eye; or he supplies the head workmen with thread, which has been spun by women, and previously coloured; and they carry on the manufacture at their own homes, having beforehand received instructions from the merchant respecting the quality of the goods he may require, their colours, patterns, &c. After the goods are finished, the merchant carries them to the custom-house, where each shawl is stamped, and pays a certain duty, the amount of which is settled according to the value and quality of the piece. The officer of government generally fixes the value beyond what the goods are in reality worth, and the duty levied on this estimate is one-fifth. Most shawls are exported from Cachmere unwashed and fresh from the loom. Amritsir is the great shawl mart, and

there they are better washed and packed than in Cachmere; but of those sent to the westward, many are worn unwashed.

Manufacture of Diaper.

The town of Dunfermline, in Fifeshire, has long been famed for the manufacture of diaper, or table linen. Tablecloths are here prepared of almost any length, breadth, and fineness, with whatever coats of arms, or mottoes wrought into them, that may be required. During the last half century, great improvements in weaving this fabric have been made. Formerly, two or three persons attended, and united their labours in the operation of weaving one web; but now, by means of the fly-shuttle, and what is called a frame for raising the figure, a single weaver can, without assistance, work a web of two yards and a half in breadth.

The corporation of Dunfermline preserves, as a singular specimen of ingenuity, a man's shirt wrought in the loom, about a hundred years ago, by a weaver of the town, called Inglis. The shirt has no seam; and everything was completed without aid from the needle, excepting a button for the neck.

Muley Ismael.

The olive plantations in the provinces of South and West Barbary do honour to the agricultural taste of the Emperor Muley Ismael. Some of these cover about six square miles of ground; the trees are planted in right lines, at a proper distance; the plantation is interspersed with openings, or squares, to let in the air. These openings are about a square acre in extent. It appears that they were all planted by Muley Ismael, whose indefatigable industry was proverbial. Wherever that warrior (who was always in the field) encamped, he never failed to employ his army in some active and useful operation, to keep them from being devoured by the worm of indolence, as he expressed it. Accordingly, wherever he encamped, we find extensive plantations of olive trees, planted by his troops, which are not only a great ornament to the country, but produce abundance of fine oil. The olive plantations at Ras-el Wed, near Terodant in Suse, are so extensive that one may travel from the rising to the setting sun under their shade without being exposed to the rays of the effulgent African sun.

The Japanese.

As an instance of the industry and activity of the Japanese, it deserves to be mentioned that they import from the Kurile islands into the interior of Japan, herrings spoiled by keeping, to serve as manure for the cotton plants. They first boil the herrings in large iron kettles, then put them in presses, and let all the liquid flow into the same kettles, from

which they take the oil for their lamps. What remains of the herrings is spread upon mats, and laid in the sun to dry till they become almost converted to ashes. They are then filled into sacks, and put on board the boats. The earth round each cotton plant is manured with them, which causes the crop to be extremely abundant.

Turkish Exactions.

Nothing can be more oppressive, or more likely to cripple industry, than the policy adopted in the Ottoman Empire. The revenues of a certain district, perhaps ten or twelve villages, are to be disposed of. The person who wishes to farm them, after ascertaining their value with all practicable accuracy, goes to a minister, and offers what he thinks proper for the term of one, two, three, or four years. As the government is always indigent, the offer of ready money is generally accepted; and nothing more is required to enable the farmer to exercise unlimited dominion over the district in question, and to augment his revenue by every means of fraud, violence, and extortion. Thus, what was originally supposed to produce fifteen purses, perhaps makes to yield forty. The peasantry are thereby ruined; since the farmer must oppress, in order to reimburse himself for his enormous expenses, or he must fail. The peasant being rated in proportion to the gross produce of the land he cultivates, cannot possibly do more than glean a scanty subsistence, which may be obtained by slight exactions, and the most wretched system of absenteeism; and thus, whilst there is, on the one hand, a strong positive motive to oppress, the stimulus to production on the part of the shareholders is the most feeble negative that can be imagined. The practical effects of this system are seen in the depopulation of the country, and the increase of robbers and thieves; the great body of whom it is known to be composed of peasantry and other subjects of the Porte, who have been thus stripped of their possessions.

Metropolitan Horticulture.

Among other blessings that gardening has bestowed on London, is that of its being a preventive of pestilence and the plague, from the circumstance of its making cleanliness a matter of profit in this immense metropolis; in whence the soil is carefully removed, to ensure the ground occupied by gardeners in its environs, which is now calculated to extend six thousand acres, within twelve miles of London; all of which is constantly cultivated for the supply of the markets with fruit and vegetables.

Even on the estates, that three thousand five hundred acres of ground in Surrey alone, are employed as market gardens; and Middleton Park, that from Kensington to Twickenham, the land on both sides of the road, for

seven miles, composes the great fruit gardens north of the Thames, for the supply of the London market. It is gratifying to see the number of hands this ground employs. Even during the six winter months, it is computed that it affords work for five persons on an acre; and at least double that number for the summer months, who are principally females; and if we add porters, hawkers, &c., it will be found to treble the amount; making the number exceed ninety thousand persons, who are in the summer months daily employed by the gardeners within a circle of ten or twelve miles round London.

American Indians.

The first step towards marriage among the American Indians, is a proof of the industry of each party. The parents on both sides having observed an attachment between two young persons, negotiate for them. This generally commences from the house where the bridegroom lives, whose mother is negotiatress for him, and begins her duties by taking a good leg of venison, or bear's meat, or something else of the same kind, to the house where the bride dwells, not forgetting to mention that her son had killed it. In return for this, the mother of the bride, if she otherwise approves of the match, which she well understands by the presents to be intended, will prepare a good dish of victuals, the produce of the labour of *woman*, such as beans, Indian corn, or the like, and then taking it to the house where the bridegroom lives, will say, 'This is the produce of my daughter's field, and she also prepared it.' If, afterwards, the mothers of the parties are enabled to tell the good news to each other, that the young people have pronounced that which was sent them, *very good*, the bargain is struck. It is as much as if the young man said to the girl, 'I am able to provide you at all times with meat to eat' and she had replied, 'and such good victuals from the field you shall have from me.' From this time, presents of this kind are continued on both sides; and the friendship between the two families daily increasing, they do their domestic and field work jointly; and when the young people have agreed to live together, the parents supply them with necessaries, such as a kettle, dishes or bowls, and what is required, as well as with axes, hoes, &c., to work in the field.

The Jesuits in Paraguay.

A remarkable example of a society of mutual co-operation, was formed by the Jesuits, about the beginning of the 17th century, in Paraguay. They found the inhabitants in a state little different from that which takes place among men when they first begin to unite together; strangers to the arts, subsisting precariously by hunting and fishing, and hardly acquainted with the first principles of subordination and government. The Jesuits

set themselves to instruct and to civilize these savages. They taught them to cultivate the ground, to rear tame animals, and to build houses. They brought them to live together in villages, and trained them to arts and manufactures. They made them taste the sweets of society, and accustomed them to the blessings of serenity and order. These people became the subjects of their benefactors, who governed them with a tender attention, resembling that with which a father directs his children. Respected and beloved, a few Jesuits presided over some hundred thousand Indians. They maintained a perfect equality among all the members of the community. Each of them was obliged to labour, not for himself alone, but for the public. The produce of their fields, together with the fruits of their industry of every kind, were deposited in common store houses, from which each individual received everything necessary for the supply of his wants. By this institution, almost all the passions which disturb the peace of society, and render the members of it unhappy, were extinguished. An admonition from a Jesuit, a slight mark of infamy, or, on some singular occasion, a few lashes with a whip, were sufficient to maintain good order among these innocent and happy people.

Enterprising Horticulturist.

The cultivation of apples has been attended to with so much care of late years in England, that a gardener, Mr. Hugh Rolands, of Brentford, in August, 1818, exhibited to the Horticultural Society, sixteen varieties of apples; and in September, he exhibited fifty-eight other sorts, all grown in his own garden, and considered the finest collection ever exhibited. In the month of October of the same year, he exhibited fifty-three additional sorts; making, in the whole, a variety of one hundred and twenty-seven kinds of the staple fruit of the country; which in point of real value, takes place of all others, and affords a variety for all seasons of the year, both for the desert and for culinary purposes, as well as the drink of which Philips in Miltonian verse has sung.

Scottish Highlanders.

To the sterility of soil, the cold watery climate, the avarice of certain proprietors of lands, the want of towns and inland communications, it has been observed, is owing that spirit of emigration and adventure so prevalent of late years in the highlands of Scotland, and which neither remonstrances, shipwreck, nor hardships of any kind, can check. Indeed this is scarcely to be wondered at, for the situation of these people at home is such as no language can describe, or imagination conceive. If with great labour and fatigue the farmer raises a slender crop of grain, the autumnal rains often baffle his utmost efforts, and frustrate all his expectations; and instead

of being able to pay an exorbitant rent, he sees his family in danger of perishing during the ensuing winter, when he is precluded from the possibility of any assistance elsewhere.

Such is the state of farming, if it may be so called, throughout the interior of the highlands; but as the country has an extensive coast, and many islands, it may be supposed, that the inhabitants of those shores enjoy all the benefit of their maritime situation. This, however, is not the case: those gifts of nature which, in any other commercial kingdom, would have been rendered subservient to the most valuable purposes, are in Scotland lost or nearly so, to the poor natives and the public. The only difference, therefore, between the inhabitants of the interior parts, and those of the more distant coast, consists in this: that the latter, with the labours of the field, have to encounter alternately the dangers of the ocean, and all the fatigues of navigation.

To these distressing circumstances at home, new difficulties and toils await the devoted farmer when abroad. He leaves his family at the commencement of the winter fishery in October, accompanied by his sons, brothers, and frequently an aged parent, and embarks on board a small open boat, in quest of the herrings, with no other provisions than oatmeal, potatoes, and fresh water; no other bedding than heath, twigs, or straw; the covering, if any, an old blanket, plaid, or great coat. Thus provided, he searches from bay to bay, through turbulent seas, frequently for several weeks together, before the shoals of herrings are discovered. The glad tidings serve to vary, but not to diminish, his fatigues. Unremitting nightly labour (the time when the herrings are taken), pinching cold winds, heavy seas, shores covered with snow or deluged with rains, contribute towards filling up the measure of his distresses; while, to men of such exquisite feelings as the Highlanders generally possess, the scene which awaits him at home does it most effectually.

Having realized a little money amongst country purchasers, he returns with the remainder of his capture, through a long navigation, frequently amidst unceasing hurricanes, not to a comfortable home and a cheerful family, but to a hut composed of turf, without windows, doors, or chimney, environed with snow, and almost hid from the eye by its great depth. Upon entering this solitary mansion, he frequently finds a part of his family lying upon heath or straw, languishing through want, or epidemical disease; while the few surviving cows, which possess the other end of the cottage, instead of furnishing further supplies of milk and blood, demand his immediate attention to keep them in existence.

The season now approaches when he is again to delve and labour the ground, on the same slender prospect of a plentiful crop, or a dry harvest. The cattle which have survived the famine of the winter, are turned out to the mountains; and, having put his domestic

falls into the best situation which a train of accumulated misfortunes admits of, he resumes the oar, either in search of the summer fishing, or white fishery. If successful in the latter, he sets out in his open boat upon voyage (taking the Hebrides and the opposite coast at a medium distance) of two hundred miles, to vend his cargo of dried cod, ling, &c. at Greenock or Glasgow. The produce, which seldom exceeds twelve or fifteen pounds, is laid out, in conjunction with his companions, upon meal and fishing tackle; and he returns through the same tedious navigation.

The autumn calls his attention again to the land; the usual round of disappointment, struggle, and distress awaits him; thus dragging through a wretched existence, in the hope of soon arriving in that country where the weary shall be at rest.

Such is the hard lot of a great body of the people who inhabit a fifth part of our island. Neglected by government, forsaken by the clergy, oppressed by stewards and taxmen, and off during most part of the year by impassable mountains and impracticable navigations, from the seats of commerce, industry, and plenty; living at considerable distances from all human aid, without the necessaries of life, or any of those comforts which might lighten the rigour of their calamities; and depending, most generally, for the bare means of subsistence, on the precarious appearance of a vessel freighted with meal or potatoes, which they with eagerness resort, though often at the distance of fifty miles. Upon the whole, the highlands of Scotland, some few excepted, are the seats of poverty, woe, and despair, exciting the pity of every observer, while the virtues of the inhabitants attract his admiration.

Growing Potatoes.

Potatoes were not planted anywhere in Scotland, in the open field, till about the year 1728, when Thomas Prentice, a day labourer, first made the experiment in the parish of Kilsyth. The trial was so successful that his example was soon followed by several of his neighbours; but it was some time before any of the produce thus raised, was exposed to sale. Prentice, at length, introduced into the market with his potatoes, and by persevering in this branch of industry for several years, accumulated about which he sunk in double interest; and when he could no longer live on, he retired to Edinburgh; where he died, at the advanced age of eighty-seven, in 1772.

Rustic Respect.

In the harvest of 1817, as a numerous body of reapers, principally inhabiting the parishes in the centre of Fife-shire, were returning from labour rather earlier than usual, they discovered a field of ripe corn belonging to the parish of the parish, an excellent man, far

from affluent, but endeared to the lower ranks by the benevolence of his character. Thinking it quite fit for the sickle, they immediately and simultaneously proceeded to work; and actually cut down the whole of the grain, and put it in sheaves, without any instruction or expectation of reward. This little trait of unlooked-for attention and kindness from his parishioners and neighbours, could not fail to be highly gratifying to the feelings of the worthy clergyman.

Discovery of Porcelain.

Although many persons have devoted their whole lives to the phantoms of discovering the perpetual motion, and the philosopher's stone, which might have been much better employed, yet even these pursuits have sometimes proved of great service. Porcelain, which had been known to the Chinese and Japanese for ages, was not made in Europe until the beginning of the eighteenth century, when John Bottger, a German from Schlaiz in Voigtland, was the first in Europe who invented the art. This man was apprentice to one Zorn, an apothecary at Berlin, where he met with an alchemist, who in return for some good offices done to him by Bottger, promised to teach him the art of making gold. Bottger then imagining himself to be in possession of the secret of making gold, immediately concluded that his fortune was made, and ran away from Berlin into Saxony, in the year 1700. Thither he was pursued, but he found protection in that country, where they at length urged him to give a specimen of his pretended knowledge; which, in fact, the poor fellow was not able to do, as he had been imposed upon, and, in truth, knew nothing of the matter. In order, however, to discover the grand secret, he laboured incessantly; and it so happened, that having once mixed various earths together, in order to make strong and durable crucibles, in course of baking them he accidentally discovered the art of making porcelain. Thence the intended transmutation took place, not in the metals, indeed, but in his own person; and as if he had been touched with a conjuror's wand, he was on a sudden transformed from an alchemist into a potter. The first porcelain thus manufactured at Dresden in 1706 was of a brownish red colour, being made of a brown clay.

Coal Mines.

The gold mines of South America were discovered about the same time that coal was first begun to be worked in England; and although it was formerly a question as to which was the most valuable discovery, yet time has proved the latter of tenfold importance. Both indeed constitute material branches of industry to the respective countries.

The first mention of coal in England, is in a grant of Henry the Third, 1239, to the town

of Newcastle, where the townsmen have a charter to dig for coals; but in 1306, the use of it was prohibited by Act of Parliament, as a nuisance, corrupting the air with its smoke. How very differently have succeeding parliaments thought of it! Although so early as the year 1421, the coal trade appears to have been of so considerable importance, that a duty of twopence was laid on each chaldron; yet so late as 1649, it would seem that it but ill repaid the industry of the adventurers. Grey, in his *Chorographia of the Coal Trade* in that year, says, 'There come sometimes into this river [the Tyne] for coales, three hundred sayle of ships. Many thousand people are employed in this trade; many live by working them in the pits; many live by conveying them to the Tyne; many are employed in conveying them in the keels from the stathes aboard the ships. One coal merchant employeth five hundred or a thousand in his works; yet for all his labour, care, and cost, can scarce live of his trade; nay, many of them hath consumed and spent great estates, and died beggars. I can remember one of many that hath raised his estate; many I remember that hath wasted great estates, Some South gentlemen have upon great hope of benefit, come into this country, to hazard their money in coal pits. Master Beaumont, a gentleman of great ingenuity and rare parts, adventured into our mines with his £30,000, who brought with him many rare engines not known in these parts; as the art to bore with iron rods, to try the deepness and thickness of the coale; rare engines to draw water out of pits; waggons with one horse, to draw down coales from the pits to the stathes, &c. Within a few years, he consumed all his money, and rode home upon his light horse.'

The family of Beaumont have, however, since found the advantage of perseverance; and a descendant of the 'Master Beaumont,' who 'consumed all his money, and rode home upon his light horse,' is now possessed of some of the most valuable coal mines in the northern counties, where twenty-eight millions of tons of coals are raised annually, and which it has been calculated can continue to supply at the same rate for a thousand years.

Happy Miners.

In the mountains which separate the southern part of Dumfriesshire from Nithsdale, are some well-known lead mines, belonging to the Earl of Hopetoun. The labourers at these mines, bear but little resemblance to their brethren in other quarters. They are of a cheerful, sober, and intelligent character. They work in the mines only six hours out of twenty-four; they have therefore much leisure, which they employ partly in the cultivation of small pieces of land allotted to them, and partly in reading. They have been at the expense of fitting up a public library, towards which they all contributed, for the purpose of purchasing books. They have also a good school for the education of their young. The

library was originally established by an overseer, named Mr. Stirling, who prevailed with the workmen to unite for that purpose. Previous to the existence of the library, the miners here were in no degree superior to ordinary collieries; but a taste for literature speedily produced its ordinary consequences—decency, industry, and pride of spirit; and a desire to give a good education to their children.

The father, and grandfather, of the celebrated Allan Ramsay were both employed as superintendents of these miners; and it was at the village of Leadhills that the poet was born.

The Cottage System.

The Board of Agriculture, on occasion of the scarcity in the years 1795 and 1796, made various enquiries into the state of the labouring poor, which produced some interesting memoirs on the best means of supporting them. The result of the investigation was, that to enable the cottagers to occupy a piece of land sufficient to maintain one or more cows, or to be cultivated for grain or vegetables, was the best means of relief.

Mr. Crutchley, steward to the Earl of Winchelsea, in his memoir states, that 'wages are certainly not raised by labourers having land; I am persuaded they are, in fact, much lowered; as a most industrious set of men are employed in labour, and having more of the comforts of life, they are enabled to work harder than common labourers; by this, more work is done for the same wages. The difference between a cottager and a common labourer is so much, that I am at a loss for a comparison, except it be that of an opulent farmer to a cottager; and when there are a number of them in any parish, the rates will be low. The public must be benefited by them, there being not a yard of waste land upon any of their premises to be found.'

A person employed by the board in 1801, and who examined above forty parishes minutely, in the counties of Lincoln and Rutland, gives the following general result.

'Seven hundred and fifty-three cottagers have amongst them eleven hundred and ninety-four cows. Not one of them receives anything from the parish, even in the present scarcity. The system is as much approved of by the farmers, as it is by the poor people themselves. They are declared to be the most hard-working, diligent, and industrious labourers, who have land and cows; and a numerous meeting of farmers signed their entire approbation of the system. In the above-mentioned parishes rates are on an average seventeen-pence halfpenny in the pound; and but for exceptions in some families who have not land, and of certain cases and expenses foreign to the enquiry, they would not be one penny in the pound.

'In nine parishes, where the proportion of the poor having cows amounted to rather more than half the whole, poor-rates are three-pence halfpenny in the pound. In twelve parishes,

ere the proportion is less than half, but not -third, poor rates are nine-pence farthing. ten parishes, where the proportion is some- ing under a fourth, poor rates are eighteen- ice in the pound. In seven parishes, where

proportion is but nearly one-sixth, poor es are four shillings and three halfpence. d in thirteen parishes, where few or none e cows, the poor rates are five shillings and ven-pence in the pound.

The poor in this considerable district being e to maintain themselves without parish stance by means of land, and live stock, to do it at the same time so much by their istry and sobriety, and consistently with honest conduct, clearly marked by the re approbation of this system by the iers, their neighbours, is a circumstance h, well considered, does away a multi- : of those objections and prejudices which o often hear in conversation.

i 1816, similar enquiries produced similar monies of the excellence of this system ; among other evidence may be noted that r. Barker, steward to Sir Robert Sheffield ; speaking of Lincolnshire, says, that there scarcely be said to be any poor in that ty, because they have all cows ; by means hich, they are in a comfortable state, and very generally equally sober, honest, and stitious.

r. Fellenberg's Establishment at Hofwyl.

r. Fellenberg, of Hofwyl, having long red- ed the extreme profligacy of the lower s in the Swiss towns, and the habits of ance and vice in which their children brought up, formed many years ago the n of attempting their reformation, upon iples equally sound and benevolent. His ig doctrine was, that to make these poor e better, it was necessary to make them comfortable ; and that this end would be tained by forming, in their earliest years, s of industry, which might contribute to subsistence ; and by joining with them a r degree of intellectual cultivation than et been extended to the labouring classes e community, or been imagined com- e with their humble pursuits. He began periments upon a small number of chil- which he increased to between thirty erty ; and this may be considered the t limit upon a farm of so moderate an t, not exceeding two hundred and twenty

These children were taken from the vorst description of society, the most ded of the mendicant poor in Berne, ther Swiss towns. With hardly any tion, they were sunk in the vicious and bits of their parents, a class of dissolute nts, resembling the worst kind of gipsies. complete change that has been effected m all, is one of the most extraordinary ffecting sights that can be imagined.

first principle of the system adopted by ellenberg, is to show the children gentle-

ness and kindness, so as to win their affections ; and always treat them as rational creatures, cultivating their reason, and appealing to it. It is equally essential to impress upon their minds the necessity of industrious and virtuous conduct to their happiness ; and the inevitable effects of the opposite behaviour, in reducing them from the comfort in which they now live, to the state of misery from which they were rescued. It is never allowed for a moment to be absent from their thoughts, that manual labour in cultivating the ground, is the grand and paramount care which must employ their whole lives, and upon which their very existence depends. To this everything else is made subordinate ; but with it are judiciously connected a variety of intellectual pursuits. At their hours of relaxation, their amusements have an instructive tendency ; certain hours are set apart for the purposes of learning ; and while at work in the fields the conversation, without interrupting for a moment the neces- sary business of their lives, is always directed towards those branches of knowledge in which they are improving themselves during the in- tervals of labour. They apply themselves to geography and history, and to the different branches of natural history, particularly mine- ralogy and botany ; in which they take a singular delight, and are considerable pro- ficients. The connexion of these with agri- culture, renders them most appropriate studies for those poor children ; and as their daily labour brings them constantly into contact with the objects of those sciences, a double relish is thus afforded at once to the science and the labour. You may see one of them every now and then stepping aside from the furrow, where several of them have been working, to deposit a specimen, or a plant, for a little hortus siccus, or cabinet.

There is one other subject ever present to their minds, a pure and rational theology ; and of its good effects all travellers bear testimony, and one has noticed a remarkable instance. When the harvest once required the labourers to work for an hour or two after nightfall, and the full moon rose in extraordinary beauty over the magnificent mountains that surround the plain of Hofwyl, suddenly, as if with one accord, the poor children began to chant a hymn which they had learnt among others, but in which the Supreme Being is adored as having 'Lighted up the great lamp of the night, and projected it in the firmament.'

Fort Montague.

In the neighbourhood of Knaresborough, there is an ornamental building called Fort Montague, in honour of the Duchess of Buc- cleugh, the great benefactress of its grateful occupiers. It stands in a commanding situ- ation, not much below the top of the cliff ; and its embattled wall, its pointed cannon, and waving flag, give it a military appearance. This house was scooped out of the rock by a poor weaver and his son. They not only formed the interior of the dwelling, but cut

the cliff into terraces, rising one above another, and extending on both sides of the house, in agreeable walks, planted on each side with a variety of flowers and shrubs; there are also arbours with seats judiciously placed, a greenhouse, and an excellent tea-room for the reception of company.

In completing this work, the weaver and his son employed, during sixteen years, all the time they could spare from their necessary avocations, being encouraged by the liberality of the neighbouring nobility and gentry. The industrious man, when it was completed, made it his habitation, and still continued to give some new decoration to the romantic spot, during each succeeding year of his life.

Siberian Fishery.

Before the opening of the four annual fisheries, tickets are given to the Cossacks registered for military service. The Attamans receive four, the Starschines three, the other civil and military officers two, and the private Cossacks one; but these tickets may be transferred or sold; so that those who are discharged and not upon the register, who have not a right to fish, may purchase that right for a year.

The first of these fisheries is the most important, the most productive, and the most curious, on account of the severity of the season when it takes place, and the manner in which it is conducted.

About the third or fourth of January, the registered Cossacks are assembled; inquiry is made if those who have been absent are returned, and where the most fish have been observed; for the sturgeons and belugas begin to ascend the river as early as the middle of autumn. The experienced fishermen, who watch them at the time the ice begins to form, assert, that these fish sport and play about the spot which they fix upon for their winter abode, where they lie torpid on the sand. A day is then fixed for opening the fishery. The wished-for day is ushered in by the discharge of artillery. The Cossacks, provided with tickets, mounted on sledges, and furnished with iron hooks of all dimensions, set out before sunrise, and range themselves in a line as they reach the appointed rendezvous. An Attaman, elected for the season, reviews them, and examines if they have their hooks and their arms to withstand the Kirguises, by whom they are frequently attacked; the jeassouls, or aides-de-camp, recommend order, and the party proceed to the designated spot. The part of the river destined for the winter fishery is about four hundred wersts in length, following the winding course of the Ural.

Every day a certain space is set apart for operations. Each Cossack has his place, which he chooses as he arrives, and which he may change with his neighbour, if they so agree, or if one of them quits his situation; but none of them can begin to fish till the Attaman has given the signal by a discharge of

musketry. At this signal, each man makes hole, the dimensions of which are nearly defined in the ice at the spot which he has chosen. He thrusts the largest of his hook down to the mud of the river, which is sometimes fifteen or sixteen fathoms deep. The fish, roused from its torpor by another hook, which the fisherman holds in his left hand, strives to burrow deeper, and falls upon the first hook, which the Cossack instantly pulls up upon the ice. It sometimes happens that two neighbours catch the same fish, or that they have need of assistance to draw up the largest; in such cases, they divide the boot. Some of them will catch ten sturgeons a day, several of which will weigh as much as five puds (a pud is thirty-three pounds weight) and belugas of above eight hundred pound weight. Others are so unfortunate as not to catch anything for several days: and, perhaps, do not take altogether sufficient to defray the expenses which their preparation for the fishery have occasioned, and which they often make upon credit. They never fail to ascribe this ill-luck to some spell that is set upon them; and if, by accident, a fish should be brought up by their hook, they immediately desist from fishing, convinced that some fatality would attend them.

Dutch Fisheries.

Blessed as the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland are with shoals of fish, this fertile source of wealth was for a long time almost wholly in the hands of strangers. To the fisheries on our coasts, the Dutch chief owe their advancement to a state of opulence and national importance. Originally they appear to have been nothing more than fishermen, collected from different quarters of the world, to a place where they could enjoy freedom of traffic, and living in huts erected upon a spot called Damsluys; they pursued their industry, and under wise and excellent regulations, the herring fisheries on the British coasts; sold their fish to many parts of the world, and brought back commodities which they themselves wanted, besides other articles of merchandize, which they exported to different parts; so that their ships were never empty, but always loaded wherever they were with some object of traffic. Sir William Manson, speaking of their ships being constantly employed, aptly compares them to a weaver's shuttle, which he casts with one hand to another, and which he keeps ever in action, till the gain appears by the cloth that he makes. By persevering in this industrious mode of life, the poor fishing village of Damsluys gradually increased. As the inhabitants gained means, the huts were converted into comfortable cottages; these into splendid dwellings; and the whole became by degrees metamorphosed, from the village of Damsluys into the opulent city of Amsterdam.

The disadvantages which the Dutch laboured under were great; but industry overcomes every obstacle, and converts it

barren spots into seats of plenty. So was their own country in natural production for almost every article requisite to these fisheries, they had recourse to exertions. Their timber, iron, hemp, e, barrels, and even bread, were ht from other countries, and chiefly Great Britain, which was thus indirectly to derive benefit from the encroachments neighbour. The Dutch had, besides, a erable navigation to make to come at heries, while we had them at our own : from the Texel to Bra Sound, in ad, is upwards of two hundred and leagues. Notwithstanding all these ng circumstances, the Dutch were, till the only persons who profited by our es. According to Sir Walter Raleigh, old in the year 1603, to different nations, y herrings as amounted to £1,759,000. year 1618, they employed in this trade, than 3,000 busses, with 50,000 men. s these, 9,000 other vessels were em- to transport and sell the fish, giving tion to 150,000 men, by sea and land, tion to those immediately engaged in eries

Dutch fishery was brought to a close, equence of the conquest of Holland by ench, and of that country being thereby d in the war between Britain and t. Great efforts have been since made ct the industry of the natives of Britain is channel, and not without success. : Shetland Isles, every proprietor of s now engaged in the fishing trade. h companies send vessels to the Pent- rith, and the Orkney Isles, and on all sts, both east and west, the shoals of s are zealously pursued every season, at numbers of vessels or busses, from towns and villages on the shores of the f Clyde. A vast deal, however, yet re- o be done : and now that machinery idered human labour of so little value l, it would be well to turn it into a where it will always be certain of an nt return.

Dutch Laundresses.

ng the reigns of Charles the First and , and as recently as that of Queen many opulent English families used to eir household and family linen all the Holland to be washed and bleached. nt mention of this fashion is made in edies written about these periods.

Dutch used to pride themselves upon ty and costliness, of their linen and in which articles many families have nown to expend several thousand ach.

labouring classes were wout, in the Dutch prosperity, to partake largely national pride, and scarce a mechanic e found who would sit down to dinner e having a damask napkin to hang im.

But since the revolution of 1795 everything has undergone a material change. The Dutch have suffered so much by the effects of war, and the extinction of their commerce, that there is as much poverty to be seen in their cities as in our own, and but few traces remain of that high degree of domestic comfort to which they had previously attained.

Hanoverian Mechanics.

In most of the cities of Germany the continuation of guilds or corporations is a great impediment to the exercise of industry. In Hanover it is carried so far that a workman, though free of the old town, is not allowed to work for a master in the new, and *vice versâ*. Apprenticeship must be regularly served before a workman can practise as a journeyman in any trade, and when the term of servitude is expired the youth must travel from place to place, during a whole year, under the pretext of improving himself, before he is permitted to exercise his knowledge at home. The continuance of these ancient privileges, injurious as they are, have from long usage such hold on the people that their sudden abolition cannot be attempted by any prudent governors, nor will they admit of alteration, except by gradual and slow degrees.

Community of Labour.

The town of Grünberg, in Silesia, contains about seven thousand inhabitants, who derive their subsistence from two sources, the manufacturing of broadcloth and the cultivation of the vine. The first is carried on in a manner which it might be well for other countries to imitate. Here is no large capitalist at the head of an extensive manufacture, and employing, at wages which will scarcely keep soul and body together, a large number of workmen, whose labours only contribute to accumulate his enormous wealth. But here are between six and seven hundred looms, which furnish comfortable subsistence to as many families. The wool is partly raised in the neighbourhood, and partly imported from Poland. There are several fulling-mills, which belong to the guild or corporation of the manufacturers, and are used in common by them all, but the spinning, the carding, the dyeing, the weaving, the drying, the pressing, the napping, in short, the whole process, from the shearing of the fleece to the sale of the cloth to the tailor, is performed by each separate manufacturer for himself. It is possible that by the separation of all these single operations, the same quantity of industry might produce a greater quantity of manufactured materials, but it is very doubtful whether it would produce a competent subsistence for so many individuals. When the system of subdividing labour *ad infinitum* is established, each individual workman is but an infinitesimal fragment of a vast body. One man, ten men, fifty men, combining all their

faculties together, cannot produce anything; unless there is a manufacture upon an immense scale there can be none at all. The single workman is thus placed altogether dependent on the great capitalist, and must, of course, become his drudge. Thus, hundreds of industrious men will be compelled to groan and toil under a weary life, for the sake of adding thousands more to the thousands of one merchant. But where all the operations for the production of a manufactured work can be performed by one man, or by a small number of men, each single workman will be of more consequence in himself, more independent of his employer, and more certain of subsistence, the profits of manufacturing will be distributed in small portions, and to greater numbers, and there will be less accumulation and more circulation of wealth

The Bengalese.

Agriculture is very little attended to in Bengal, the implements are bad, and the want of capital prevents the subdivision of labour. Every manufacturer, and every artist working on his own account, conducts the whole process of his art, from the formation of his tools to the sale of his production. A cultivator in Bengal who employs servants employs one for each plough, and pays him monthly wages, which, on an average, do not exceed one rupee per month, and in a very cheap district the wages are so low as half a rupee; but the task, on the medium of one-third of an acre per day, is completed by noon. The cattle are then left to the herdsman's care, and the ploughman follows other occupations during the remainder of the day. Generally he cultivates some land on his own account, and this he commonly rents from his employer, for payment in kind. If the herd be sufficiently numerous to occupy one person, a servant is retained, and receives in food, money, and clothing to the value of one rupee and a half per month. The plough itself costs less than a rupee. The cattle employed in husbandry are of the smallest kind; the cost, on an average, is not more than five rupees each. The price of labour may be computed from the usual hire of a plough, with its yoke of oxen, which may be stated, on a medium, to be about fourpence per day. The clearing of the rice is executed with a wooden pestle and mortar, the allowance of husking it being nearly uniform. The person performing this contracts to deliver back five-eighths of the weight in clear rice, the surplus, with the chaff or bran, paying for the labour.

The Shakers.

In the United States of America is a religious society called the Shakers, which is established upon the principle of a community of property, on the system of united labour and expenditure. The advantages are equally participated by all, without any distinction

whatever. Almost every article of food that can be produced is of their own growth, and they not only manufacture nearly all their own clothing but also several articles for sale. Some of the men are skilful mechanics, others are farmers, &c., and have completed some inventions which would have entitled them to patents, but that they never take an believing it to be wrong that one man should have an exclusive right over any invention.

They avoid all unnecessary intercourse with others; they even decline mending their roads with other people; the road-masters therefore let them take as much of the road to repair as they please, and work it as they please, and their share is always well done and to the satisfaction of the magistrate. Although each has an appointed place and occupation, yet in hay time and harvest all are united, and quickly secure the whole. The women's work is done by turns, so that the same women are only employed at one kind of work a limited period annually. Thus four to cook, four in the dairy, eight to wash &c., for one month, when they are relieved by others; spinning, weaving, &c., are also done by rotation.

The number of individuals composing one of these establishments varies from one to eight hundred; the quantity of land also varies from one to ten thousand acres. The buy up neighbouring farms, as the enlargement of their numbers and funds make necessary. The boundaries of their settlements at Lebanon and Hancock were formerly three miles apart, but two farms now only separate them. A traveller who has heard of these people can generally know when he is come to their possessions, from the excellent improvements, fences, &c. A Shaker boy being once asked how they managed with their neighbours as to the fences, &c., he replied, 'We manage without much difficulty for if we make ours good, they generally follow the example; if they do not quite so much as their share, we do a little more than ours, and in time they come tolerably near to what they ought to be; sometimes we shame them to compliance even in the outset.'

Time of Edward the Sixth.

When Dr. Goldsmith wrote his poem of the 'Deserted Village,' in which he so pathetically lamented the sad alteration there was from the time

'Ere England's griefs began.
When every rood of ground maintain'd its man,'

he was not, we suspect, aware that these real or imaginary 'griefs' were of such long standing as the time of Edward the Sixth. In the reign of that monarch, the value of land rose with the value of its produce; and the rents of farms had been doubled—in many instances trebled—in the course of a few years. To the working classes this alteration would have made little difference had their wages been

d in the same ratio. But it so happened the demand of labour had been lessened, the price for labour sunk with the demand. Experience had proved to the agriculturist the growth of wool was more profitable than that of corn; whence tillage was disused, that a larger portion of land might be brought into pasturage; and, in most cases, thousands of labourers were excluded from their accustomed employments. If scarcity of work generated distress, distress was augmented by the interested, and obvious, policy of the landlords. In such times, particularly on the estates of monks and clergy, considerable portions of land had been allotted for the common use of labourers and of the poor inhabitants. The present proprietors had, by repeated enclosures, added many portions of the wastes to commons to the former extent of the same; and thus had cut off or narrowed one source of support to the more indigent.

A proclamation issued by the king, which was made to complain that many villages in which one hundred or two hundred families had lived, were entirely destroyed; the shepherd now dwelt where industrious men dwelt before; and that the realm was ruined by 'bringing arable ground into pasture, and letting houses, whole families, and fields, to fall down, decay, and be waste.' The king's commissioners, in his charge, made these complaints, observing that the law which forbade any man to keep more than two thousand sheep, and commanded the owners of church lands to keep householders the same, and to occupy as much of the waste lands in tillage as had been occupied in former years before, were disobeyed; whence it was reported that the number of the king's subjects had been wonderfully diminished, as was proved by the new books of musters compared with the old, and with the chronicles.

Paisley Manufactures.

The town of Paisley, so long celebrated for its various sorts of manufactures, was at first famous for coarse chequered linen cloth. Some time afterwards more famed for its fine red linen handkerchiefs, some of them beautifully variegated by the manner in which the different colours were disposed, according to the taste and invention of the manufacturers. These were succeeded by a lighter and more fanciful kind, consisting not only of plain lawns, but of striped or chequered with cotton, and ornamented with a great variety of figures; a kind of manufacture which still subsists in Paisley to a considerable extent. Another manufacture which came into vogue about the year 1760, and which attained to great importance, was that of the Bargarren thread, first introduced by Mrs. Christian Shaw, and afterwards generally known by the name of the Bargarren thread. About the year 1760, Mr. James Hillhouse, in Ayrshire, intro-

duced the manufacture of silk gauze, in imitation of that of Spitalfields, in London. After various counteractions, to which all new inventions or trials are exposed, he completely established the manufacture. Originally, the patterns and designs of all fancy works, modes, and fashions, were devised at Paris, whence they issued with an absolute authority all over Europe. But the Paisley manufacturers established draughtsmen of their own, by whom their designs were made; and the patterns, when executed, were sent to London and Paris for approbation. By these means the inventive principle of modes and fashions, at least in respect of silk gauze, was transferred from Paris to Paisley. The consequence was, that nice and curious fabrics were devised; and such a vast variety of elegant and richly-ornamented gauze was issued from this place as outdid everything of the kind that had formerly appeared; Spitalfields was actually obliged to relinquish the manufacture; companies went down from London to carry it on in Paisley, where it prospered and increased, it is believed, beyond any manufacture which any town in Scotland can boast of. Indeed, it not only became the great distinguishing manufacture of that place, but it filled the country round to the distance of twenty miles; and the gentlemen engaged in it had not only warehouses in London and Dublin, but they had correspondents upon the Continent, and shops for vending their commodities even in Paris itself.

After the invention of Arkwright's machinery for spinning cotton had rendered fabrics prepared from that material at once cheap and elegant, the demand for silks naturally declined, and almost passed away; but Paisley was not tardy in adopting the new manufacture, or in bringing it to its utmost perfection. The whole neighbouring waters were speedily occupied with spinning mills and bleach fields, and every village was filled with persons employed in weaving goods.

It is by such unceasing ingenuity and industry, always ready to make the most of every changing circumstance, that Paisley has arrived at that distinction and wealth which it now enjoys.

Manufacture of Kelp.

Although the manufactures in which kelp now forms an essential ingredient have existed long, the preparation of this substance does not appear to have been of very long standing in Britain. About a hundred years ago, some gentlemen of the Orkney Islands, who had either seen the manufacture in other parts, or had heard it described, entered into a resolution to attempt the introduction of it into their own country. The extensive shore of the Orkneys, thickly clad with marine plants, to which the hand of man had hitherto given no disturbance, presented themselves in all their luxuriance, and excited hopes that there might one day result from them such signal benefits, as to extend not only to the

people of Orkney, but to the whole nation. Promising, however, as the attempt may have been, it was not very much relished ; and the lower orders of people, who must have rejoiced at the prospect, had they not been sunk in the most torpid indolence, discovered such an aversion to the measure, that they made no scruple to give it the most determined opposition. Regarding with dislike every kind of employment to which they had not been accustomed, they represented to their superiors the bad consequences which they apprehended from this new and strange business. 'They were certain,' they said, 'that the suffocating smoke that issued from the kelp-kilns would sicken, or kill, every species of fish on the coast, or drive them out to the ocean, far beyond the reach of the fishermen ; blast the corn and grass on their farms ; introduce diseases among the human species ; and smite with barrenness all sorts of animals. The proprietors, however, persisted in their plan of manufacturing kelp ; and the innovation gradually surmounted all the obstacles cast in its way, till the manufacture came to flourish in a most surprising manner.

In some recent years, the quantity made in the Orkneys has been 3000 tons ; and as the price has been £9, £9 9s., and even £10, the manufacture must sometimes have brought into the islands nearly £30,000 sterling in one season. Neither the average produce, nor the price, however, has always been so high ; so that we ought not perhaps to rate the former at more than 2500 tons, and the latter at above £9 per ton. At a medium, however, it is calculated that since the commencement of the manufacture, it cannot have produced less to the Orkney Islands than nearly a million of money.

Scottish Aversion to Parochial Relief.

A poor and infirm carter, in the stewartry of Kircudbright, had the misfortune to lose his only horse, which took some complaint, and died ; a misfortune which was to him the greater, as he had no means of replacing the animal. Being thus thrown out of employment, the neighbours, after the lapse of a week or two, became apprehensive that he might be in want, and ventured to mention his case to the minister. Accordingly, the minister waited on him, and endeavoured, in a general and indirect way, to ascertain his exact circumstances ; but his parishioner's answers were equally general and led to no satisfactory explanation. A few days more elapsed, when the minister again waited on the carter, and told him bluntly his fears, at the same time offering to procure for him parochial aid. 'Thank you, thank you, sir,' said the carter, 'for your kind intentions,' his heart swelling as he spoke ; 'but, if you please, I'll not apply just yet, till we see how things turn about ; the times, I hear,

are beginning to mend, and by and by I'll, may be, get a little work : at any rate, sir, I have yet *twenty-pence*, and the *skin of the horse* !'

Prison Discipline.

A gentleman who visited the county of Norfolk in 1818, gives the following interesting particulars of the advantages of inculcating habits of industry among the prisoners. He says, 'On the ground floor of the felony yard, there are two work-rooms : in one were two shoemakers, and a lad who had been in that manner apprenticed to them. He had been more than once detected in crime, and bore a very bad character ; from this, and from the character of his associates, his was considered almost an hopeless case. Upon his last conviction, the governor requested the inspector to allow him to try the experiment of reformation by labour. At first he was unruly ; but he has much improved, has learned to make shoes, and will, in the opinion of his instructor, be able to earn his livelihood at the time of his liberation. The governor and the turnkey remarked how much the lad had amended his behaviour and conversation since he had been fully employed. In the other rooms, one weaver and two carpenters were employed, and were thankful for the opportunity of being so ; and, indeed, it is a rule, which my experience has not furnished an exception, that prisoners are always glad to work ; are more orderly and manageable when they are less exposed to contamination ; in short, when in prison, and when they leave it, are less vicious when employed than when idle. In these opinions the gaoler fully coincided ; he said, "work is the best governor of a prisoner ; it prevents dissension and attempts to escape ; it takes away half the trouble and half the danger ;" and he would wish to employ his prisoners, and pay them accordingly, *though the labour produced nothing*.

'They are allowed one-third of their earnings, half at the time if they require it, and half at the expiration of the sentence. An account is kept with each of them ; I observed that the boy described above, already a credit of 19s. ; another man had received nearly £7, and had instructed two others to make shoes.'

Fruit Trees in Germany.

In the Duchy of Gotha there are many villages which obtain a rent of two or three hundred dollars, or more, for their fruit trees planted on the road side, and on the commons. Every new-married couple is bound to plant two young fruit trees. The rent is applied to parochial purposes. In order to preserve the plantations from injury, the inhabitants of the parish are all made answerable, each of whom is thus a watch upon the other ; and if any one is caught in the act of committing any injury, all the damage done

the same year, the authors of which not being discovered, is attributed to him, he is compelled to atone for it according to its extent, either by fine or corporal punishment.

Ingenious Weaver.

In 1819, Thomas Hall, an ingenious linen-weaver in Ireland, finished a shirt entirely inloom. It was woven throughout without seams, and very accurately and neatly finished at the neck, shoulders, and wrists. The neck and wristbands were doubled and hemmed; there was a regular selvage on each side of the breast; the shoulder-straps and cuffs were neatly stitched, as well as the sleeves. In short, it was as perfectly finished, as if made by an expert sempstress. The shirt was exhibited to several persons in the linen trade, who completely satisfied themselves that it was actually the produce of the loom, without any assistance from a needle.

A Poor Scholar.

The Rev. Samuel Wesley, the father of the founder of Methodism, when a youth, so far from being his friends, by withdrawing from the family at which he had been placed, that they sent him no further support. But Samuel, finding that he could depend on himself, he went to Oxford, entered himself at Exeter College as a poor scholar, and began his studies there with no larger a fund than two shillings and sixteen pence, and no prospect of a regular supply. From that time until he died, a single crown was all that he received from his friends. He composed exercises for those who had more money than he; and he gave instructions to those who wished to profit by his lessons; and thus, by his industry and great frugality, he not only supported himself, but had accumulated some ten pounds fifteen shillings, when he went to London to be ordained.

Irish Linen Manufacture.

The people of Ireland seem incapable of exerting their own powers of exertion, when stimulated by adventitious assistance. A spinner to become industrious, must be presented with a wheel; a weaver must be supplied with a loom; a bleacher cannot carry on business unless he be furnished with a house in Dublin, for the purpose of selling his commodity; the linen manufacture, which may be considered the staple of Ireland, would not flourish, were it not for the sums lavished for its general encouragement.

The foundation of the linen manufacture in Ireland, was laid by the unfortunate Earl of Kildare, during the time that he resided in the country as chief governor. Having observed that the soil in many parts was suited

to the production of flax, that the women were chiefly bred to spinning, and that the price of labour was cheap, he conceived that linen might be made there at such an expense as would enable the manufacturers to undersell those of Holland and France, twenty per cent. at least. Impressed with this idea, he sent to Holland for flax seed, and to the Netherlands and France for competent workmen. The flax was sown and succeeded according to expectation; spinners and looms were set to work; and his lordship, to animate others, embarked himself in the business, and expended, in promoting it, £30,000 of his private fortune; he, however, established the most important manufacture Ireland has ever possessed.

There are many parts of Ireland where the manufacture extends no farther than to spinning, markets being held in these places for yarn only. Yarn spun by the hand is carried to different degrees of fineness, in different parts of the country, according to the nature of the manufactories which have been established there, and the quality of the flax they produce; but in this respect, female labour has certainly the advantage over machinery, as the yarn produced by the former is rendered much finer than any made by the latter. Some instances of the ingenuity of the Irish women in spinning, are very extraordinary.

German Peasants.

The whole country, from the Heidelberg to the Rhingau, and from the Rhine to the mountains of the Spessart, presents one uniform face. The open fields are divided into small patches by the difference of culture, which frequently denotes the boundaries of each peasant's little farm. The farms are seldom large, rarely exceeding fifty acres; the gentleman-farmer, or speculative agriculturist, is a being unknown; and the opposite extreme, the class of agricultural day labourers, is very small. The labours of the field are still in the hands of the primitive class of peasant proprietors. This is one main cause of the comparative absence of squalid poverty and distress, and of the comfortable respectability and ease, which are observable in the lower ranks near the Rhine. The peasant generally holds his little possession at a fixed rent, due to the lord of the soil, which is never increased. He cannot be dispossessed; and his land descends from father to son, subject to this burthen, in a tenure much resembling English copyholds.

When the young peasant first starts in life, matrimony is of course his first step. His father advances him a sum sufficient to purchase a few acres of the sandy soil, and a few cows. If the donation is not considerable enough for the establishment of a family, he often buys double the quantity, and mortgages his land to some monied man in the town. This is an accommodation to both parties. The investment supplies the place of public funds in states where they do not exist,

and is often preferred to them, where they do. A gentleman at Hanau, had many thousand florins outstanding, on loan to the peasants in the neighbouring mountains; who discharged the interest with great punctuality.

Exhibition at the Louvre.

The annual exhibition of the produce of French industry at the Louvre in Paris, has been productive of the happiest results. There have been already several exhibitions of this kind in the French capital; the first took place in the year VI. of the republic, at the Champ de Mars. At the competition of this year, Mr. Fox, who was then in Paris, expressed in the most marked way his astonishment at the progress of French industry; and particularly remarked the excellent manufacture, and extreme cheapness of workmen's tools.

The competition of the year IX. which was opened in the court of the Louvre, was more brilliant than any that had preceded it. In 1819, the exhibition was still superior. Twenty-eight superb halls of the most superb palace in Europe, were filled with all that luxury could invent or luxury perfect, that genius could imagine or skill execute. Since the commencement of these exhibitions, the arts in France have made giant strides towards perfection. Manufactures that five years before were in their infancy, had now become matured; and others that were then almost unknown, had made considerable progress. In articles of ornament, the French had always ranked first; and in those of usefulness, they are now second to England only.

Sandwich Islanders.

Such is the astonishing assiduity of the natives of the Sandwich Islands, and such their eagerness to improve their condition by imitating the trades and occupations of the Europeans, that it is not unusual to see one of them exercising the trade of a country blacksmith, having for an anvil, a pig of iron kentlage obtained from some ship; a pair of goat-skin bellows, made by himself or some of his countrymen; and with his charcoal fire, making articles suited to the wants of his countrymen, or repairing and altering such as stand in need of it, with an ingenuity surpassing what might be expected under such circumstances.

James Sartain.

At a time when the poor rates of England amount to eight or ten millions annually, it is pleasing to record instances of meritorious industry, as contrasted with that degrading idleness which is too prevalent. James Sartain, a labourer, resident in the village of Charlcombe, near Bath, had nineteen

children, fourteen of whom were living in the year 1819. This numerous family has been maintained by the honest and industrious parents, without ever receiving, or applying for, the slightest parochial relief.

Slavery at the Havana.

The regulations adopted by the Spaniards at the Havana, and some other places for the enfranchisement of their slaves, are calculated to effect so desirable an object, gradually. As soon as a slave is landed, his name, price &c., are entered in a public register; and the master is obliged by law to allow him one working day in every week to himself, besides Sunday; so that if the slave choose to work for his master on that day, he receives the wages of a free man for it; and whatever he gains by his labour on that day, is secured to him by law, that the master cannot deprive him of it. This, which is certainly a very considerable step towards abolishing absolute slavery, was one of the old Spanish laws.

As soon as the slave is able by his first day work, to purchase another working day, the master is obliged to sell it to him at a proportionate price, viz., one-fifth part of the original cost; and so, likewise, the remainder four days, at the same rate, wherever the slave is able to redeem them; after which, he is absolutely free. This is such an incitement to industry, that even the most indolent are roused to activity; so abhorrent is a state of slavery to the most ignorant and uneducated being, whether African or European.

Public Manufactories.

In some countries the government, or rich and powerful individuals, not being either merchants, manufacturerers, or skilled in manufactures, from a well-meant, but injudicious, desire of promoting commerce and industry, and furnishing employment for the poor, have attempted to establish large extensive manufactories for the production of fabrics on their own account. Such vast and magnificent speculations, instead of proving serviceable to the country at large, or any individual in it, prove uniformly ruinous to the undertakers, and injurious to the cause of general industry.

In Spain, the government at one time distinguished itself in this way most remarkably. Townshend says, that the yearly loss by the porcelain manufacture, conducted by government at *Buen Retiro*, was estimated at 1,436,188 reals. The annual cost of the glass manufacture, carried on in like manner by the government, he states at 1,136,884 reals!

A similar fate attended a similar attempt of an Archbishop of Toledo, as we find it stated by the same writer. 'The good archbishop says he, feeds seven hundred persons, who are employed in the silk manufacture; but unfortunately with the best intentions in the

old, he has completed the ruin of the city! his weight of capital, he has raised the price of labour and of the raw material : and carrying so great a quantity of manufactured goods to the common market, he has so lowered the commodity, that those who used to employ from forty to sixty workmen, now but employ three; and those people who are employed by the prelate, far from supporting themselves, required forty thousand ducats a year, over and above.'

In like manner, we have seen the Dublin Society attempting to encourage the manufacture of Irish woollen cloths, and Irish silks, by opening two warehouses, where goods were bought at a premium, and sold, on their own account, by wholesale and retail, for ready money. 'The intent of these institutions,' says Arthur Young, 'was to take the labourers out of the hands of drapers and mercers, and let their manufactures come to market without the deduction of the shopkeeper's profit.' What was the consequence? In proportion as the regular drapers and mercers were thus deprived of the ready money, the most profitable part of their custom, they, in order to reimburse themselves, raised the price of their goods to those who bought on credit; and as consumption always rises as prices rise, the general consumption of the manufactures of the country was increased, to let the ready-money dealer have his goods a little cheaper. Fortunately for Ireland, as Young adds, the ready-money dealer was by no means equal to that on credit. Drapers and mercers supported their business in spite of their formidable rival, the Society, backed with £2500 a year, approved to their ruin : and this in order to encourage the manufactures of the country!

To leave matters to take their natural course, is the grand secret of all prosperous industry. There is something imposing, no doubt, in the idea of having the sole property in an extensive and flourishing manufacture; dispensation of employment and bread to thousands; of the inspection of their conduct, and distribution of rewards for their industry; but experience shows, that the inevitable tendency of all such forced schemes of improvement, is to debilitate the energy, and to destroy the productive powers, of the Society. Like confining in a hot-house, and by the use of artificial heat rearing to a premature growth, a plant, which, if set in the open air and natural soil, and left to the free action of the sun, and to the fostering rains and dews of heaven, would have spread its leaves, and yielded an abundant return; instead of exhibiting a sickly unwholesome plant, and affording a small produce at great expense.

New Lanark.

In the year 1784, the late Mr. David Dale, Glasgow, founded a spinning and weaving manufactory near the falls of the Clyde, in the parish of Lanark, in Scotland; and about

that period, cotton mills were first introduced into the northern part of the kingdom.

It was the power which could be obtained from the falls of water, which induced Mr. Dale to erect his mills in this situation; for in other respects it was not well chosen; the country around was uncultivated; the inhabitants were poor, and few in number; and the roads in the neighbourhood were so bad, that the falls of Clyde, now so celebrated, were then unknown to strangers.

It was therefore necessary to collect a new population, to supply the infant establishment with labourers. This, however, was no light task; for all the regularly-trained Scotch peasantry disdained the idea of working early and late, day after day, within cotton mills. Two modes only to obtain these labourers occurred; the one, to procure children from the various public charities in the country; and the other, to induce families to settle around the works.

To accommodate the first, a large house was erected, which ultimately contained about five hundred children, who were procured chiefly from workhouses and charities in Edinburgh. These children were to be fed, clothed, and educated; and these duties Mr. Dale performed with the unwearied benevolence which he was known to possess.

To obtain the second a village was built, and the houses were let at a low rent to such families as could be induced to accept employment in the mills, but such was the general dislike to that occupation at the time, that, with a few exceptions, persons destitute of friends, employment, and character, were alone found willing to try the experiment, and of these a sufficient number to supply a constant increase of the manufactory could not be obtained. It was, therefore, deemed a favour on the part even of such individuals to come to reside at the village; and when they were taught the business, they became of still more value to the establishment. In consequence, they literally became agents; not to be governed contrary to their own inclinations.

Mr. Dale's principal avocations were at a distance from the works, which he seldom visited more than once for a few hours in three or four months; he was, therefore, under the necessity of committing the management of the establishment to various servants, with more or less power.

Those who have a practical knowledge of mankind will readily anticipate the character which a population so collected and constituted would acquire; it is therefore scarcely necessary to state that the community by degrees formed itself, under these circumstances, into a very wretched society; every man did that which was right in his own eyes, and vice and immorality prevailed to a lamentable extent. The population was literally in idleness, in poverty, in almost every kind of crime; it scarcely need be added, in debt, out of health, and in misery. Yet to make matters still worse, although the cause proceeded from the best possible motive—that is, a con-

scientious adherence to principle, the whole was under a strong sectarian influence, which gave a marked and decided preference to one set of religious opinions over all others, and the professors of the favoured opinions were the privileged of the community.

The boarding-house, however, containing the children, presented a very different scene. The benevolent proprietor spared no expense which could give comfort to the poor children which it contained. The rooms provided for them were spacious, always clean, and well ventilated; the food was of the best quality, and most abundant; the clothes were neat and useful; a surgeon was kept in constant pay to direct how to prevent as well as to cure disease; and the best instructors which the country afforded, were appointed to teach such branches of education as were deemed likely to be useful to children in their situation. Kind, well-disposed persons were appointed to superintend all their proceedings. Nothing, in short, at first sight, seemed wanting to render it a most complete charity.

But to defray the expense of these well-devised arrangements, and support the establishment generally, it was absolutely necessary that the children should be employed within the mills from six o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening, summer and winter; and after these hours, their education commenced. The directors of the public charities, from mistaken economy, would not consent to send the children under their care to cotton mills, unless the children were received by the proprietors at the ages of six, seven, and eight; and Mr. Dale was under the necessity of accepting them at those ages, or stopping the manufactory which he had commenced.

It is not to be supposed that children so young could remain, with the interval of meals only, from six in the morning until seven in the evening, in constant employment on their feet within cotton mills, and afterwards acquire much proficiency in education. And so it proved, for many of them became dwarfs in body and mind, and some of them deformed. Their labour through the day, and their education at night, became so irksome, that numbers of them continually ran away, and almost all looked forward with impatience and anxiety to the expiration of their apprenticeship of seven, eight, and nine years, which generally expired when they were from thirteen to fifteen years old. At this period of life, unaccustomed to provide for themselves, and unacquainted with the world, they usually went to Edinburgh or Glasgow, where boys and girls were soon assailed by the innumerable temptations which all large towns present; and to which many of them fell sacrifices.

Thus were Mr. Dale's arrangements and kind solicitude for the comfort and happiness of these children rendered, in their ultimate effect, almost nugatory. They were sent to be employed, and without their labour he could not support them; but while under his care he did all that any individual, circum-

stanced as he was, could do for his fellow-creatures. The error proceeded from the children being sent from the workhouses at an age far too young for employment; they ought to have been detained four years longer, and educated; and then all the evils which followed would have been prevented.

If such be a true picture, not overcharged, of parish apprentices to our manufacturing system, under the best and most humane regulations, in what colours must it be exhibited under the worst?

Mr. Dale was advancing in years; he had no sons to succeed him; and finding the consequences just described to be the result of all his strenuous exertions for the improvement and happiness of his fellow-creatures, it is not surprising that he became disposed to retire from the cares of the establishment. He accordingly sold it to some English merchants and manufacturers; one of whom, Mr. Robert Owen, under the circumstances just narrated, undertook the management of the concern, and fixed his residence in the midst of the population. This gentleman had been previously in the management of large establishments, employing a number of workpeople in the neighbourhood of Manchester; and in every case, by the steady application of certain general principles of character, he succeeded in reforming the habits of those under his care, who always among their associates appeared conspicuous for their good conduct. With this previous success in remodelling English character, but ignorant of the local ideas, manners, and customs of those now committed to his management, the stranger commenced his task.

At that period the lower classes in Scotland, like those of other countries, had strong prejudices against strangers having any authority over them, and particularly against the English, few of whom had then settled in Scotland, and not one in the neighbourhood of the scenes under description. It is also well known that even the Scotch peasantry and working classes possess the habit of tracing cause and effect with great acuteness, and in the present case those employed naturally concluded that the new purchasers intended merely to make profit by the establishment, on the abuses of which many of them were then deriving support. The persons employed at these works were therefore strongly prejudiced against the new directors of the establishment; prejudiced, because he was a stranger, and from England; because he succeeded Mr. Dale, under whose proprietorship they were allowed their own way; because his religious creed was not theirs; and because they concluded that the works would be governed by new laws and regulations, calculated to squeeze, as they often termed it, the greatest sum of gain out of their labour.

In consequence, from the day he arrived among them, every means which ingenuity could devise was set to work, to counteract the plan which he attempted to introduce;

for two years, it was a regular attack on the manager and population of the ; without the former being able to make progress, or convince the latter of the utility of his good intentions for their welfare.

He, however, did not lose his patience, temper, or his confidence, in the certainty of the principles on which he founded his conduct. And these principles did ultimately prevail; the population could not continue to resist a firm, well-directed kindness ministering justice to all. They therefore ; and cautiously began to give him some of their confidence: and, as this indeed, he was enabled more and more to adopt his plans for their amelioration. It may with truth be said, that at this period he possessed almost all the vices, and very few of the virtues, of a social community. Idleness, and the receipt of stolen goods, was a trade; idleness and drunkenness their ; falsehood and deception their garb; dissensions, civil and religious, their daily ; and they were united only in a general systematic opposition to their em-

ployer, then, was a fair field on which to try the efficacy in practice of principles supposed to be of altering any characters. The manager formed his plans accordingly: he spent some time in finding out the full extent of the evil against which he had to contend, and in tracing the true causes which had produced these effects, and which were concurring to them. He found that all was distrust, disorder, and disunion; and he wished to restore confidence, regularity, and harmony; he therefore began to bring forward various expedients to withdraw the unfavourable circumstances by which they had hitherto surrounded, and replace them by others calculated to produce a more happy

He soon discovered that theft was the chief evil through almost all the ramifications of the community, and the receipt of stolen goods through all the country around. To suppress this evil, not one legal punishment was inflicted, not one individual imprisoned, not an hour; but checks, and other restraints of prevention, were introduced; a plain explanation of the immediate cause, they would derive from a different source, was inculcated by those instructed for the purpose, who had the best powers of reasoning among themselves. They were at the same time instructed how to direct their industry in legal and useful occupations; by which, without danger or disgrace, they could earn more than they had previously done by dishonest practices. Thus the probability of committing the crime was increased, the detection afterwards rendered easy, the habit of honest industry was formed, and the pleasure of good conduct was increased.

Drunkenness was attacked in the same manner; it was discountenanced on every side by those who had charge of any department; its destructive and pernicious

effects were frequently stated by his own more prudent comrades, at the proper moment, when the individual was soberly suffering from the effects of his previous excess; pot and public-houses were gradually removed from the immediate vicinity of their dwellings; the health and comfort of temperance were made familiar to them; and by degrees drunkenness disappeared, and many who were habitual bacchanalians, are now conspicuous for undeviating sobriety.

Falsehood and deception met with a similar fate; they were held in disgrace; their practical evils were shortly explained; and every countenance was given to truth and open conduct. The pleasure and substantial advantages derived from the latter, soon overcame the impolicy, error, and consequent misery, which the former mode of acting had created.

Dissensions and quarrels were undermined by analogous expedients. When they could not be readily adjusted between the parties themselves, they were stated to the manager; and as in such cases both disputants were usually more or less in the wrong, that wrong was in as few words as possible explained, forgiveness and friendship recommended, and one simple and easily remembered precept inculcated, as the most valuable rule for their whole conduct, and the advantages of which they would experience every moment of their lives, viz., 'That in future, they should endeavour to use the same active exertions to make each other happy and comfortable, as they had hitherto done to make each other miserable; and, by carrying this short memorandum in their mind, and applying it on all occasions, they would soon render that place a Paradise, which, from the most mistaken principles of action, they now made the abode of misery.' The experiment was tried; the parties enjoyed the gratification of this new mode of conduct; references rapidly subsided, and now serious differences are scarcely known.

Considerable jealousies also existed on account of one religious sect possessing a decided preference over the others. This was corrected by dropping that preference, and giving an uniform encouragement to those who conducted themselves well, among all the various religious persuasions; by recommending the same consideration to be shown to the conscientious opinions of each sect, on the ground that all must believe the particular doctrines which they had been taught, and consequently all were in that respect on an equal footing; nor was it possible yet to say which was right, or which wrong. It was likewise inculcated, that all should attend to the essence of religion, and not to act as the world is too often taught and trained to do: that is, to overlook the substance and essence of religion; and devote their talents, time, and money, to that which is far worse than its shadow, sectarianism, another term for something very injurious to society, which some well-meaning enthusiast has added to *true religion*; which, without these defects,

would soon form mankind generally into those characters that every wise and good man is anxious to see them possess.

Such statements and conduct, arrested sectarian animosity and ignorant intolerance; yet increased the attention of the whole to their religious duties, of which they are so exemplarily observant, as to attract the marked notice of all strangers; each retained full liberty of conscience, and in consequence each partakes of the sincere friendship of many sects in lieu of one. They act with cordiality together in the same departments and pursuits, and associate as though the whole community were not of different sectarian persuasions; and not one evil ensues.

The system of receiving apprentices from public charities was abolished; permanent settlers, with large families, were encouraged in lieu of them, and comfortable houses were built for their accommodation.

The practice of employing children in the mills, of six, seven, and eight years of age, was abolished, and their parents advised to allow them to acquire health and education until they were ten years old.

The children were taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, during five years, that is, from five to ten, in the village school, without expense to their parents.

During the period these changes were going forward, attention was given to the domestic arrangements of the community. Their houses were rendered comfortable, their streets were improved, the best provisions were purchased, and sold to them at low rates, yet covering the original expense; and under such regulations, as taught them how to proportion their expenditure to their income. Fuel and clothes were obtained for them in the same manner; no advantage was ever attempted to be taken of them, or means used to deceive them.

In consequence, their animosity and opposition to a stranger, subsided, their full confidence was given, that they became satisfied that no evil was intended them; on the contrary, they were convinced that a real desire existed to increase their happiness, upon those grounds on which alone it could be permanently increased. All difficulties in the way of future improvement vanished. They were taught to be rational, and they acted rationally; and thus both parties experienced the incalculable advantages of the system which has been adopted. Those employed, became industrious, temperate, healthy, faithful to their employers, and kind to each other; while the proprietors were deriving services from their attachment, almost without inspection, far beyond those which could be obtained by any other means, without those mutual principles of confidence and kindness existing between the parties.

That this is no exaggerated description of the benefits which have been conferred on New Lanark, by the persevering and enlightened humanity of Mr. Owen, is proved by the concurring reports of all strangers who have visited this establishment; either from

motives of curiosity, or with a more laudable view of profiting by the admirable example which Mr. Owen has set. It may be sufficient to quote the following report of a deputation appointed by the town of Leeds, 1819, to make a personal inspection of Mr. Owen's establishment, in order that measures might be taken for the adoption of a similar system of management in that large, but sadly demoralized, manufacturing town.

'Mr. Owen's establishment at New Lanark is conducted in a manner superior to any other the deputation ever witnessed, dispensing more happiness than perhaps any other institution in the kingdom; and is founded on an admirable system of moral regulation.

'The population consists of 2293 individuals exclusive of 188 persons employed in the mills from Old Lanark. Of this population, 400 children under ten years of age, are receiving daily instruction in the schools; and by showing towards them a spirit of kindness, and impressing them with a sense of their duty (without the hope of reward, or the fear of punishment) they are making satisfactory progress in reading, writing, and accounts as well as in music and dancing. In the education of the children, the thing that is most remarkable, is the general spirit of kindness and affection which is shown towards them, and the entire absence of everything that is likely to give them bad habits, with the presence of everything that is likely to inspire them with good ones. The consequence is, that they appear like one well-regulated family, united together by the ties of the closest affection. We heard no quarrels from the youngest to the oldest; and so strongly impressed are they with the conviction that their interest and duty are the same, and that to be happy themselves, it is necessary to make those happy by whom they are surrounded, that they had no strife, but in offices of kindness.

'The next class of the population, consists of the boys and girls between ten and seventeen years of age. The deportment of these young people, probably owing to the advantage of their early training, is very exemplary. In business, they are regular and diligent; and in their manners, they are mild and engaging. They are taught to know that vice and happiness can never be long allied; and they seek their gratifications rather in the improvement of their minds, than in the company or the habits of the dissolute. Public-houses, and the other resorts of the vicious, are nowhere to be found in this happy village; and the advantage of the absence of their contaminating influence, is strikingly exemplified in the contrast of manners and of conduct between the inhabitants of New Lanark, and of most of the other manufacturing places.

'In the adult inhabitants of New Lanark we saw much to commend. In general, they appear clean, healthy, and sober. Intoxication, the parent of so many vices and of so much misery, is indeed almost unknown here. The consequence is, that they are a

clad and well fed; and their dwellings clean and inviting. It is quite manifest, the New Lanark system has a tendency to improve the religious character; and so needless are the apprehensions expressed of the score of religion suffering injury by prevalence of these establishments, that accord with Mr. Owen in his assertion, the inhabitants of that place form a more virtuous community, than any manufacturing establishment in the United Kingdom.

In this well-regulated colony, where almost everything is made, wanted by either the factory or its inhabitants, no cursing or swearing is anywhere to be heard.

There are no quarrelsome men nor brawling women. These effects arise partly out of the moral culture of the place, partly from the absence of public-houses, &c.

High wages, it is quite manifest, are not the cause of the comfort which prevails here. The wages of those under eighteen years of age, are, for the males, 4s. 3d.; for the females, 3s. 5d. per week. Such as work by the piece, under eighteen years of age, obtain more; the males, 5s. 9d.; and the females, 5s. 4d. The average weekly wages of those above eighteen years of age, are, for the males, 9s. 11d.; for women, 6s. When work by the piece, the men obtain 12s.; and the women, 8s.

Contrast to New Lanark.

In the infancy of the trade, all cotton mills were erected on streams of water, and the men, as originally at New Lanark, were daily brought from populous towns, and attached to the manufacturer, who was under a particular obligation to take care of their sickness as well as health; and was, after 1802, subject to the restrictions of the

Apprentice Bill, with respect to the employment of labour. In consequence, however, of the facility with which it has been found possible to adapt the steam-engine to every manufacture or mechanical operation requiring a powerful first mover, mills for spinning cotton began to be erected, not, as at New Lanark, in remote and sequestered valleys, but in the midst of great cities and populous

Manufacturers were thus relieved of the necessity of bringing their hands to distance: a sufficient number of adults and children were always to be procured from the resident inhabitants of the place; children, instead of being apprenticed before, to their masters, were left to the care of their parents. The masters had no other concern about the hands employed, than to extract from them as much labour at the cheapest rate as they could; and parents of large families, attracted by the wages which children at very early ages can gain at cotton spinning, were to send them to the manufactories at the tenderest years, to be made use of as they were pleased; both parties being alike regardless of the inevitably fatal conse-

quences to the health and character of the unfortunate victims of this confederacy of cupidity and want. Philanthropists have had thus the affliction to see arise in the heart of a free and happy country, a branch of trade, conducted in a manner which is a disgrace to civilization; and which presents a melancholy picture of the length to which some men can be carried by a passion for gain, in defiance of every principle of right, or sentiment of humanity.

From evidence adduced before the House of Lords in 1819, it appears that the time of labour in most of the cotton factories in Lancashire and the neighbouring counties has been from fourteen to fifteen hours out of the twenty-four, including one hour, or less, allowed for dinner, except that on Saturdays the workpeople in most instances have given over at four o'clock, making the labour from three to four hours less on that day than during the rest of the week. For breakfast and the afternoon's meal there is no time specially set apart, both being snatched in mouthfuls by the poor creatures as they well can, the machinery never stopping for an instant. The temperature breathed all the while is generally from 75 to 80 degrees; in some mills, where fine yarn is spun, it is from 80 to 85, and sometimes even higher! Many of the individuals subject to this extreme and unhealthy employment have been children of seven and eight years of age, and *some even six years and under*. But as if it were not enough to exact toil thus protracted from such tender years, the seasons of refreshment common to men in other occupations are denied in a great measure to the infant spinner, it being a part of the policy that rules in most English cotton mills, to employ the children *during the greater part, and occasionally the whole, of that time that should be spent at dinner*, in cleaning the machinery. Dr. Winstanley met with one little boy at a Sunday School in Manchester, not nine years old, who said he had worked about two months in a factory, and 'that he was obliged to be there at half-past five in the morning, and to stay till nine at night.' *Fifteen hours and a half* each day, of almost uninterrupted labour, for a boy not nine years of age! Need we be surprised to find that the weariness of these wretched children is frequently so great, that nature becomes quite exhausted; so that recourse is had occasionally to *ropes and straps*, to prevent the ill-fated child from dropping asleep at its task.

Can any sensible person require to be told what must be, and are, the consequences of such enormous efforts in children of such an age? These consequences are not more notorious than they are afflicting. They are in one shape familiar to the eye of every man of the least observation, who has walked in the streets of Manchester, and other places where the cotton manufacture prevails, at the hour when the factory bells summon the poor people to leave off work; and they are sent forth late and weary to their homes, offering to the eye features of such a complexion as, in this civil-

ized and happy country, so remarkable for the comfortable aspect of the working classes, presents a contrast not less lamentable than it is strange and impressive. The pallid faces and emaciated forms, and too often squalid aspect of these young labourers, sufficiently attest to all whom prejudice has not absolutely blinded, that they are sufferers to a deplorable extent, and afford evidence which both bespeaks their occupation, and supplicates relief. Yet more afflicting, because more matured (though probably less known), are the cases of those who, from the same source, have acquired *distortions* of an incurable nature, destructive of their usefulness for life; and of others more numerous still, who, from such early and excessive labour in heated air, offer the semblance of old age, and suffer its evils, whilst yet in the meridian of life, and pay the debt of nature at the period of what is usually its greatest vigour, cut off by consumptions, and various lingering pains and maladies.

The most singular, and to persons of intelligence, not the least revolting, thing about this wicked system is, that its authors have actually had the assurance to defend it on a pretence of regard for social order! Were the time of labour, they say, shortened, indolence and profligacy would be promoted by leaving the people too much time at their own disposal! Who can wonder, that whilst such is the light

in which these gentlemen appreciate the rights and qualities of the labouring poor, they should so easily reconcile it to themselves exact from them a servitude so rigorous and unmerciful? According to this feudal philosophy, then, we are to understand that unless a poor man is worked fourteen or fifteen hours a day, he must needs be 'indolent,' and not only so, but 'profligate' into the bargain! So it seems society is much indebted to the master-spinners, much more than they suspected perhaps. The 'good order' of the town of Manchester, and other such place, is doubtless owing to the salutary *régimen* which they have so happily established!—namely, they are *reformers* also, and *that* not by accident, but upon *system*, and as the prevention of evil is better than the cure of it, they guard against all disorders in their working people, by confining them in mills for fourteen or fifteen hours a day, to the extinction of every possible opportunity either for mischief, liberty, knowledge, or fresh air!

What a contrast do such inhuman doctrines and practices present to the scene of comfort and happiness displayed at New Lanark, where a population engaged in precisely the same pursuits; and at one period nearly reduced to an equal state of wretchedness, but happily redeemed from it by the exertions of one benevolent and enlightened individual!



ANECDOTES OF COMMERCE.

INCE the time of the ancient Romans, I know of no nation that has enriched itself by its victories. In the fourteenth century, owed her wealth entirely to commerce; Holland would have subsisted but a short time, had she looked no further than the seizure of the Spanish Plate fleets, and had neglected the foundation of her power in India. England is ever impoverished by war, even when she is most successful against the naval power of France; and she owes all her grandeur to commerce. The pirates, who support themselves solely by piracies, are a very wretched people.'—VOLTAIRE.

Rise of Commerce.

LAND, above all other countries, is indebted for its present glorious rank among nations of the globe, to the superiority of commercial connexions and resources. Commerce, there can be little doubt, is nearly as ancient as the world itself; necessity set it out; the desire of convenience improved it; vanity, luxury, and avarice, have largely contributed to raise it to its present pitch. At it could only consist in the exchange of what is necessary for life. The ploughman his corn to the shepherd, and received skins and wool in exchange. This method of commerce still exists among rude nations, particularly on the coasts of Siberia, Lapland, and among several nations on the shores of Asia, Africa, and America.

In all imperfectly formed societies which adhere to this rude simplicity, there are various modes of exchange; thus, the Laplanders and the savages of America, give the value of the minever, ermine, and beaver, in payment of the goods with which they are supplied; in other countries, gold dust, ivory, &c., are used for the same purpose. In some countries, cattle formed the intermediate article; and according to this arrangement, a certain number of sheep and oxen given in exchange for provisions or merchandize. This custom, which was attended with much inconvenience, existed no longer in the period when metals were first introduced in commerce as a standard value.

It is not precisely known when the commerce, by buying and selling, first began; the first pieces of money made to replace the value of the cattle which were before the medium of exchange in trade, bore the figures and names of the animal that it represented. A hundred pieces on which was the picture of a sheep, were equivalent to a hundred oxen, and the piece of money which bore the picture of an ox or a cow, sufficed for the payment of one of those animals.

The facility afforded to commercial intercourse by means of money, the activity which it inspires in circulation, and its influence in almost every transaction of human life, cause it to be looked upon as the soul of business.

The first most expert and most daring traders of all antiquity, were the Egyptians, the Phœnicians, and the Carthaginians.

Under the Asiatic and Grecian empires, commerce was cultivated by several nations; but it flourished more considerably under the dominion of the Romans, as appears from the great number of their colleges and companies of merchants.

The destruction of the Roman empire by the irruptions of the barbarians, brought that of commerce along with it; or, at least, suspended its ordinary operation for some time. By degrees it began to recover itself, and made a new progress; especially in Italy. The Pisans, Florentines, Genoese, and Venetians, abounding in shipping, took occasion to spread themselves through all the ports of the Levant and Egypt; bringing thence silk, spices, and other merchandize, with which they furnished the greatest part of Europe. Thus was the modern commerce founded on the ruins of that of the ancient Greeks and Romans to the same places; and thus did those famous republics acquire their lustre and power, which were considerably increased by the commercial effects of the crusades. The republics furnished the crusaders with transports, military stores, and provisions, and obtained charters very favourable to the establishment and extension of their commerce. When Constantinople was taken under the banner of the holy cross, many valuable branches of trade, which formerly entered in that city, were transferred to Venice, Genoa, or Pisa.

The Germans had, however, long carried on a separate commerce, which was not borrowed from the Romans, nor did it fall with theirs. Towards the end of the twelfth cen-

tury, the German cities situated on the coasts of the Baltic, and the rivers that communicate with it, carried on a considerable traffic with the neighbouring states. As their commerce was much interrupted by pirates, seventy-two of them united together for their mutual defence; and were hence called Hanseatic, or Hans towns. These flourished till the end of the fifteenth, or beginning of the sixteenth, century, when a division arose among them. About the same time a new passage to the Indies was discovered by the Portuguese, by the Cape of Good Hope, and settlements made on the coasts of Africa and the Indies; the ancient Italian and Hanseatic commerce sank; and the chief trade came into the hands of the Portuguese.

The Portuguese had not possessed those different branches of commerce above a hundred years, when, about the beginning of the seventeenth century, the Dutch began to share it with them, and in a little time dispossessed them of almost the whole of it. The English, French, Danes, Hamburgers, excited by their success, soon made settlements in the Indies, and on the coasts of Africa. And lastly, America, discovered by Columbus in 1492, became the object of a new, vast, and most important commerce for all the nations of Europe; and of this, Cadiz and Seville were made the centre.

The first conquerors of this new world, still possess the greatest part of it, and endeavour to preserve its commerce to themselves with great jealousy; yet the English, French, Portuguese, and Dutch, have several rich and flourishing colonies, either in the islands or on the continent; and it is certain, that the trade of Europe has not suffered by the new commerce with America.

The navigation from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, was tedious and difficult; the situation of Flanders, the flourishing state of its manufactures, together with the free fairs of that country, engaged the merchants, both of the north and south, to establish their magazines first in Bruges, and then in Antwerp. But the establishment of the republic of Holland, the favourable reception it gave to strangers, and the refuge it afforded to religious exiles, drew store of manufacturers to it, as well as manufactures; and soon sunk the commerce of Antwerp. The same reasons, with the convenience and multitude of the ports of England, the goodness of the wools, and the industry of the workmen, have brought hither the better part of the commerce of Europe.

Origin of Ambassadors.

The interests of commerce have frequently made it necessary to maintain ambassadors or agents in foreign countries, where the purposes either of war or alliance would not have required any. The commerce of the Turkey Company first occasioned the establishment of an ordinary ambassador at Constantinople. The first English embassies to Russia arose

altogether from commercial interests. The constant interference which those interests necessarily occasioned between the subjects of the different states of Europe, has introduced the custom of keeping in all neighbouring countries, ambassadors or ministers, constantly resident, even in the time of peace. This custom, unknown to ancient times, is no older than the beginning of the sixteenth century; that is, than the time when commerce first began to extend itself to the greater part of the nations of Europe, and when they began to attend to its interests.

Tyre.

Of all the cities of antiquity, Tyre was the most celebrated for the extent of its commerce. The Tyrians obtained the production of the East, of which it was the grand emporium, by sailing up the Red Sea or Arabian Gulf, and then passing across Arabia Petraea to Rhinocolura.

Alexander seems to have determined on the destruction of Tyre, in order to found a city which he might dignify with his name, and enrich with the commerce of the East; for which Alexandria was placed in a better situation than Tyre.

Of Tyre, 'whose merchants were princes, whose traffickers were the honourable of the earth,' there now exist scarcely any traces. Some miserable cabins arranged in irregular lines, dignified with the name of streets, and a few buildings of a rather better description, occupied by the offices of the government, compose nearly the whole of the town. It still, indeed, makes some languishing efforts at commerce, and continues to export annually to Alexandria cargoes of silk and tobacco, but to a very trifling extent. 'The noble dust of Alexander traced by the imagination till found stopping a beer barrel,' would scarcely afford a stronger contrast of grandeur and debasement than Tyre at the period of its siege by that conqueror, and the modern town of Soor erected on its ashes.

The Carthaginians.

The conduct of the commercial nations of antiquity towards those with whom they dwelt, cannot be without interest to the moderns, who are engaged in similar pursuits; their motives of action are the same, and they will therefore discover in the display of the means, the resources and the politics of the Carthaginians, the true science of commerce.

Carthage, so well known by its wars against Rome and its final destruction, is very little known before those events; its historians, if ever they existed, have not been preserved to our days. Contemporary writers have mentioned Carthage; Herodotus, who lived during its greatest splendour, Polybius, and Diodorus, are the only authors who can impart a knowledge of its progress as a commercial republic, till the time of its highest grandeur, namely,

before, and during, the Persian monarchy. Carthage, like all the other establishments made by the Phœnicians on the southern coast of Africa, was a Tyrian colony, but not the most ancient of them. In its infant state, the Carthaginian colony acted with a prudence arising from its weakness, by keeping up a good understanding with the natives, but when it had acquired strength, they made war on the conquered aborigines, though they did not subdue them. It was their interest to restrain these Nomadian, or Numidian Africans, and to change their habits, for the purpose of reigning over them. The first care was to instruct them in agriculture, and their superiority to the Romans in political knowledge was evinced by colonizing their empire on various points of their territory, by inducing them to mingle with the natives, and by using unions to acquire the sovereignty of the country. It is not easy to find among the ancients a people who better understood the political system, or who carried it to a greater

extent. The colonies which Carthage planted in Africa and in Europe were always in a state of dependence, and in that respect she pursued a more sagacious policy than the Romans. The states of Phœnicia and the Grecian republics. In the interior, population was augmented by agriculture and civilization; and the colonial government was so judicious that commerce carried on by means of stores, at convenient distances, tended constantly and solely to the benefit of the metropolis, by thus concentrating all their profits in a single point, the colonies were always prevented from attaining such a degree of independence as should make them desirous of retaining the government of the parent, and rendering themselves independent. The public very properly gave greater extent to its colonial operations than to those of the metropolis, but even to the object of their commerce they fixed some bounds; they regulated it by an exact reference to their maritime commerce; in proportion to the increase of commerce was the extent of the other; and the constant proof of the exactness with which the Carthaginians observed this rule of politics, that in all their contests with the Romans and the Greeks, they were never the losers of a single colonial possession; in Africa they only formed establishments in proportion as they possessed the sovereignty of the coast, and felt themselves enabled to preserve them.

Carthage alone opened her ports to foreign and foreign merchants, while all the other states of her African territory, and in the interior, durst not receive any vessels but those of the republic. It was only in places where competition could not be avoided, as in Sicily, that the accession of foreigners was admitted; and, even there, it was guarded by various restrictions. Foreign trade was regulated under the inspection, and in presence, of Carthaginian officers; and all sums received for the sale of goods were considered as public debts, and placed under the national

guarantee. This mode of policy has not been overlooked by some modern nations; it probably suggested the Navigation Act, that palladium of British commerce.

The articles of exchange between the Carthaginians and the inhabitants of Italy, Spain, Sicily, &c., consisted of wine, oil, and all the produce of their manufactories; in return for which they received negro slaves, diamonds, and gold. From Corsica they obtained honey, wax, and raisins; on the coasts of Etruria they found iron, wrought and unwrought; the Baleares gave them grain and excellent mules; in the western seas of Europe they obtained tin, amber, &c.; but the mines of Spain always formed the chief commercial attraction, and the most abundant source of their public wealth.

The cities strictly subjected to Carthage must not be confounded with those of Phœnician origin which existed previously, as Utica, Leptis, and others, which were so many republics. When Carthage became, by its riches, the metropolis of Africa, these republics did not enjoy an equal degree of independence, but they were allies, and not subjects; this is proved by a reference to two treaties made between the people of Carthage and the Romans. In these compacts the Carthaginians gave the law to a people by whom they were doomed at a future day to be utterly destroyed, and the Uticans and Tyrians are named as allies. De Heeren, with the assistance of Herodotus, has enumerated all the African nations who inhabited the eastern part of the Carthaginian country, from the smaller of the Syrtes to the frontiers of Cyrene; nations which were, from the nature of their soil, necessarily erratic, but who were not, on that account, less servicable to the Carthaginians, transporting, by means of caravans, their merchandizes to the interior of Africa; these caravans crossed the deserts of Libya to the banks of the Niger, on one side; and to Upper Egypt and Ethiopia on the other.

There is no doubt that the navigation of the Carthaginians extended on the western coast of Africa far beyond their colonies; but the discoveries which they made in parts unknown to all other nations, remain a secret; if the mystery is developed, it is by Herodotus, to whom De Heeren gives credit for as much veracity, as other modern authors have imputed to him of its opposite. He says, that the Carthaginians, passing the pillars of Hercules, traded with a barbarous nation, who inhabited the coasts of Libya; when their ships arrived, they carried their goods on shore, and leaving them on the beach, returned to their vessels, having first raised a smoke by way of signal. The natives then came to the place, and laying down quantities of gold by the side of the goods, retired to a distance. The Carthaginians then returned to the spot, and if satisfied with the quantity of gold thus tendered, took it, and set sail immediately; if the purchase was not deemed sufficient, they returned on board, but waited till the negroes came and added more gold,

and so continued till they agreed in their bargains. In these transactions the utmost good faith was observed; the traders never touched the gold till it became equal to the value of their goods; and the savages abstained from the merchandize till the purchase was completed, by the gold being taken away.

A fact extremely similar is related by Mr. Jackson, in his account of Morocco. He mentions a negro city about two hundred and thirty miles west of Timbuctoo, which the Moorish merchants dare not enter. The negro deposits his gold without the town, and leaves it! The Moor places his merchandize by its side, and retires! The negro returns and takes his choice, and no instance has ever occurred of deceit on either side. Such also, according to Kotzebue, is the manner of dealing observed by the inhabitants of one of the islands in Behring's straits, in exchanging their furs, and ready-made articles of dress, for beads, tobacco, and wood for making bows and arrows, with the Tschukutskoi. The stranger first comes and lays some goods on the shore, and then retires; the American comes, looks at the things, puts as many skins near them as he thinks proper to give, and then also goes away. Upon this, the stranger approaches, and examines what is offered to him; if he is satisfied with it, he takes the skins and leaves his goods; but if not, then he lets all the things lie, retires a second time, and expects an addition from the purchaser. In this manner the dealing is carried on without speaking.

The Romans.

The foreign commerce of the Romans appears very unimportant, when compared with the extensive mercantile transactions of our own times. They traded, it is true, not only to the East Indies, but to all the ports of the Mediterranean, and occasionally even to those of England. But if we except the corn received on the account of government from Sicily and the Levant, their importations consisted of little else than articles of mere luxury; and having no exportable manufactures of their own, nor any surplus product of the soil, their purchases were necessarily made in bullion; a medium which must of itself have narrowed the limits of their commercial dealings, if other causes also did not contribute to circumscribe them. The interests of commerce were little understood, and less appreciated; the consequence was, that men of capital would not openly devote themselves to it, and it was relinquished to slaves and freedmen, who seldom possessed means to conduct it on an extensive scale. Their most important trade was to the coast of Malabar, yet its real annual amount fell short of a million sterling; but owing to the imposts with which it was loaded, the vast expense at which it was conducted, and the enormous profits realized by those engaged in it, it has been computed that the goods cost the Italian consumer about one hundred times their original value.

The merchant ships of the Romans were of a size proportioned to the kind of coasting trade in which they were necessarily confined by their imperfect knowledge of navigation and accordingly we find, that in the time of Cæsar, vessels of this description were considered large if they reached the burden of fifty tons. Instances of much larger vessels are mentioned, but they were by no means frequent.

Dignity of Trade.

Among the ancients, commerce did not appear unworthy the application of persons of the first rank. Solomon, we are told, frequently joined his merchant fleets with those of the King of Tyre, for their voyage to Ophir; and by this means, though in a little kingdom, he rendered himself the richest monarch of his time.

Among the Romans, commerce was considered dishonourable, and those who engaged in it were held in contempt. This is still the case in some parts of Germany, where some of the paltry nobles, whose whole income is not equal to that of a tradesman's clerk in London, will not be seen in the same room with any person engaged in trade, or with one descended from a merchant.

In France, the nobles are allowed to exercise commerce without derogating from their nobility: by an ordinance of Louis XII. merchants are allowed to take on them the quality of nobles; and by another of Louis XIV., they are declared capable of being secretaries of state, without laying aside their commerce.

In our own country, in the tenth century King Athelstan passed a remarkable law, which was well calculated for the encouragement of commerce, and which it requires some liberality of mind, in that age, to devise, namely, that a merchant, who had made three long sea-voyages on his own account should be admitted to the rank of athane gentleman. It may be added, for the honour of trade, that some of the Italian princes looking on themselves as the chief merchants of their states, do not disdain to make their own palaces serve as magazines: and there are several kings in Asia, as well as most those on the coasts of Africa and Guinea, who negotiate with the Europeans by their factors and frequently in person.

Herodotus a Merchant.

M. Malte Brun hazards an opinion, equally ingenious and probable, that the great father of history and geography, Herodotus, was a merchant. 'At least,' says he, 'this supposition affords the most natural solution of his long voyages and numerous connexions with nations by no means friendly to the Greeks.' His silence respecting commerce M. M. Brun fancies arose from the same motives which induced the Carthaginians

throw every voyager into the sea who approached Sardinia, lest the sources of their commerce and riches should be discovered.

The Crusades.

However much we may condemn the crusades for their extravagance and waste of human lives, it must be allowed that they were productive of very beneficial results in the extension of the useful arts to countries where they were previously unknown. In their progress towards the Holy Land, the followers of the cross marched through countries better cultivated and more civilized than their own; and it was not possible for them to behold the various customs and institutions without acquiring information and improvement. The naval power of the Eastern empire was at that time considerable. Manufactures of the most curious fabric were carried on in its dominions; and Constantinople was the only mart in Europe for the commodities of the East Indies.

The commercial effects of the crusades were very considerable. The first armies under the standard of the cross, which Peter the Hermit, and Godfrey of Bouillon, led through Germany and Hungary to Constantinople, suffered so much by the length of the march, as well as the fierceness of the barbarous people who inhabited these countries, that it deterred others from taking the same route; that rather than encounter so many dangers, they chose to go by sea. Venice, Genoa, and Pisa, furnished the transports in which they embarked. The sum which these cities received for freight from such numerous armies, and for military stores and provisions, was immense. The success which attended the arms of the Crusaders was productive of advantages still more permanent. There are quarters yet extant, containing grants to the Venetians, Pisans, and Genoese, of the most extensive immunities in the several settlements which the Christians made in Asia. All the commodities which they imported or exported, are thereby exempted from every imposition; the property of entire suburbs in some of the maritime towns, and of large streets and houses in others, is vested in them; and all questions arising among persons settled within their precincts, who acted under their protection, are appointed to be tried by their own laws, and by judges of their own appointment. When the Crusaders seized Constantinople, and placed one of their own number on the imperial throne, the Italian states were likewise gainers by the event. The Venetians, who had planned the enterprise, and took a considerable share in carrying it into execution, did not neglect to secure to themselves the chief advantages resulting from its success. They made themselves masters of part of the ancient Peloponnese in Greece, together with some of the most fertile islands in the Archipelago. Many valuable branches of the commerce which nearly centred in Constantinople, were

transferred to Venice, Genoa, or Pisa. Thus a succession of events occasioned by the holy war, opened various sources from which wealth flowed in such abundance into these cities, that it occasioned a new kind of fermentation and activity in the minds of the people; and excited such a general passion for liberty and independence, that before the conclusion of the last crusade, all the considerable cities in Italy had either purchased or extorted large immunities from the emperors.

During the continuance of the crusades, the Italian states established a regular commerce with the East, in the ports of Egypt, and drew from thence all the rich products of the Indies. They introduced into their own territories manufactures of various kinds, and carried them on with great ingenuity and vigour. They attempted new arts, and transplanted from warmer climates to which they had been deemed peculiar, several natural productions, which now furnish the materials of a lucrative and extended commerce. All these commodities, whether imported from Asia, or produced by their own skill, they disposed of to great advantage among the other people of Europe, who began to acquire some taste for elegance, unknown to their ancestors, or despised by them.

The Hanseatic League.

The Hanseatic League is the most powerful commercial confederacy known in history; and the vigorous efforts of this society, attentive only to commercial objects, diffused over Europe new and more liberal ideas concerning justice and order, wherever they settled.

It was towards the close of the twelfth century, and while the Italians in the South of Europe were cultivating trade with such industry and success, that a commercial spirit awakened in the North. As the nations around the Baltic were at that time extremely barbarous, and infested the sea with their piracies, it obliged the cities of Hamburgh and Lubeck, soon after they began to open some trade with these people, to enter into a league of mutual defence. They derived such advantages from this union, that other towns acceded to the confederacy, and in a short time, seventy-two of the most considerable cities scattered through those vast countries which stretch from the bottom of the Baltic to Cologne on the Rhine, joined in the famous Hanseatic League, which became so formidable, that its alliance was courted, and its enmity dreaded, by the greatest monarchs.

The members of this powerful association formed the first systematic plan of commerce known in the middle ages, and conducted it by common laws, enacted in their general assemblies. They supplied the rest of Europe with naval stores, and fixed on different towns where they established staples, in which their commerce was regularly carried on.

The Hanseatic League, in the height of its power and commerce, gave laws in commercial concerns to the whole northern world, and

they were often but too apt to make an unjust use of their power for the ruining of any trade not confederated with them, by making an arbitrary order at their general assemblies, that none of their cities should traffic or correspond with any city not in the League. Such conduct could not fail to stir up many princes to be their enemies, who were therefore continually thwarting their commercial interests; and towards the declension of this confederacy, we find even some German princes inveighing bitterly against them, as the monopolizers and engrossers of all commerce.

The first source of wealth to the towns situated on the Baltic sea, seems to have been the herring fishery; the shoals of herrings at that time frequented the coasts of Sweden and Denmark, in the same manner as they now resort to the British coasts. The effects of this fishery are thus described by an author of the thirteenth century. 'The Danes,' says he, 'who were formerly clad in the poor garb of sailors, are now clothed in scarlet, purple, and fine linen, for they abound with wealth, flowing from their annual fishery on the coast of Schonen; so that all nations resort to them, bringing their gold, silver, and precious commodities, that they may purchase herrings which the divine bounty bestows upon them.'

The Lombards.

During the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the commerce of Europe was almost entirely in the hands of the Italians, more commonly known by the name of Lombards. Companies or societies of Lombard merchants settled in every different kingdom. They were taken under the immediate protection of the several governments; and enjoyed extensive privileges and immunities. The operation of the ancient barbarous laws concerning strangers, was suspended with respect to them; and in France they were exempted from the *droit d'aubaine*.

As the Lombards engrossed the trade of every kingdom in which they settled, they soon became masters of its cash. Money, of course, was in their hands not only a sign of the value of their commodities, but became an object of commerce itself. They dealt largely as bankers; and in an ordinance in the year 1295, we find them styled *mercatores* and *campsores*. The Lombards carried on this as well as some other branches of their commerce, with somewhat of that rapacious spirit which is natural to monopolizers, who are not restrained by rivalry. An absurd opinion which prevailed in the middle ages, was, however, in some measure the cause of their exorbitant demands, and may be pleaded in apology for them. Commerce cannot be carried on with advantage, unless the persons who lend a sum are allowed a certain premium for the use of their money, and as a compensation for the risk they run in permitting another to traffic with their stock. This premium is fixed by law in all commercial

countries, some of the states of America excepted, and is called the legal interest of money. But the fathers of the church preposterously applied the prohibitions of usury in Scripture to the payment of legal interest, and condemned it as a sin. The schoolmen, misled by Aristotle, whose sentiments they followed implicitly, and without examination, adopted the same error, and enforced it. Thus the Lombards found themselves engaged in a traffic which was deemed criminal and odious, and subject to punishment if detected. They were not satisfied, therefore, with that moderate premium which they might have claimed, if their trade had been open and authorized by law. They exacted a sum proportionate to the danger and infamy of a discovery.

The Lombards were established in England in the thirteenth century, and carried on an extensive commerce, particularly as bankers, in a street which still bears their name. The three gilt balls which now adorn the shops of pawnbrokers, were the arms of the Lombards, and were generally attached to their respective houses in England.

Infancy of British Trade.

In England the progress of commerce was extremely slow, and this country was one of the last nations in Europe to avail itself of its natural commercial advantages. Before the reign of Edward the Third, all the wool of England, except a small quantity made into coarse cloths for home consumption, was sold to the Flemings or Lombards, and manufactured by them. All foreign goods were brought into England by the Lombard or Hanseatic merchants. The English ports were frequented by ships both from the north and south of Europe; and they tamely allowed foreigners to reap all the profits arising from the supply of their wants.

The first commercial treaty of England on record, is that with Haquin, King of Norway, in 1217; but the English did not venture to trade in their own ships to the Baltic, until the beginning of the fourteenth century; and it was not until the fifteenth that they sent any ships into the Mediterranean, or to the ports of Spain and Portugal.

To Edward the Third, England is indebted for giving the first impulse to commerce, by endeavouring to excite a spirit of industry among his subjects. By alluring Flemish artisans to settle in his dominions, as well as by many wise laws for the encouragement and regulation of trade, he gave a beginning to the woollen manufactures of England; and first turned the active and enterprising genius of his people towards those arts which have raised the English to the highest rank among commercial nations.

So rapidly did the commerce of England advance from this time, that in the 28th year of the same king, the balance of commerce in her favour was nearly equal to £800,000 of our money. 'Thus,' as Sir William Temple says, 'when England had but a very small

foreign commerce, we were rich in proportion to our neighbours, by selling so much more than we bought, even though we maintained such mighty wars in France, and carried our victorious arms into the heart of Spain.'

Prevention of Famine.

A person who passes from the trading towns and cultured fields of England, to the Hebridean isles, or remote parts of Ireland, is astonished at the comparative wretchedness of their destitute inhabitants; but few consider that these scenes of misery only exhibit a view of what Europe was, ere the spirit of commerce diffused the blessings which naturally flow from her improvements. In the Hebrides, the failure of harvest almost depopulates an island. Having little or no traffic to purchase grain, numbers of the young people betake themselves to the continent in quest of employment and food, leaving a few less adventurous behind to beget a new race, the heirs of the same misfortunes. From the same cause, from the want of traffic, the kingdom of England has often felt more dreadful effects than these. Even in the days when her Henries and Edwards plumed themselves with the trophies of France, how often has famine spread all her horrors over city and village? Our modern histories neglect this characteristic feature of ancient days; but the rude chronicles of those ages inform us, that three or four times, in almost every reign of long continuance, was England thus visited. The failure of one crop was then severely felt; and two bad harvests together, were almost insupportable. But commerce has now opened another scene; it has armed government with the happiest power that can be exerted by the rulers of a nation—the power to prevent every extremity which may possibly arise from a deficiency of native produce to supply the wants of the people.

Introduction of Silk to Europe.

As a valuable merchandize of small bulk is capable of defraying the expense of land carriage, no sooner was the use of silk introduced among the Romans, about the middle of the sixth century, than caravans were employed, which traversed the whole latitude of Asia in two hundred and forty-three days, from the Chinese Ocean to the sea coast of Syria. Silk was immediately desired to the Romans by the Persian merchants, who frequented the fairs of Armenia and Nisibis; but this trade, which in the interval of truce was oppressed by avarice and jealousy, was totally interrupted by the long wars of the rival monarchies.

The most savage dominion has not extirpated the seeds of agriculture and commerce from a region which is celebrated as one of the gardens of Asia; the cities of Samarcand and Bochara are advantageously seated for

the exchange of its various productions, and their merchants purchased from the Chinese the raw or manufactured silk, which they transported into Persia for the use of the Roman empire. In the vain capital of China, the Sogdian caravans were entertained as the suppliant embassies of tributary kingdoms, and if they returned in safety the bold adventure was rewarded with exorbitant gain.

To escape the Tartar robbers and the tyrants of Persia, the silk caravans explored the southern road, and traversing the mountains of Thibet, discerned the streams of the Ganges or the Indus, and patiently expected, in the ports of Guzerat and Malabar, the annual fleets of the West.

In the island of Ceylon, at an equal distance, it was computed, from their respective countries, the silk merchants of China, who had collected in their voyages aloes, cloves, nutmeg, and sandalwood, maintained a free and beneficial commerce with the inhabitants of the Persian Gulf.

As silk became of indispensable use, the Emperor Justinian saw with concern that the Persians had occupied by land and sea the monopoly of this important supply, and that the wealth of his subjects was continually drained by a nation of enemies and idolaters. An active government would have restored the trade of Egypt, and the navigation of the Red Sea, which had decayed with the prosperity of the empire, and the Roman vessels might have sailed for the purchase of silk to the ports of Ceylon, of Malacca, or even of China. Justinian embraced a more humble expedient, and solicited the aid of his Christian allies, the Ethiopians of Abyssinia, who had recently acquired the arts of navigation, the spirit of trade, and the seaport of Adulis. Along the African coast they penetrated to the equator, in search of gold, emeralds, and aromatics, but they wisely declined an unequal competition, in which they must always be prevented by the vicinity of the Persians to the markets of India, and the Emperor submitted to the disappointment till his wishes were gratified by an unexpected event.

The gospel had been preached to the Indians; a church was planted in Ceylon, and the missionaries pursued the footsteps of commerce to the extremities of Asia. Two Persian monks had long resided in China, who amidst their pious occupations viewed with a curious eye the common dress of the Chinese, the manufactures of silk, and the myriads of silkworms whose education, either on trees or in houses, had once been considered as the labour of queens. They soon discovered that it was impracticable to transport the short-lived insect, but that in the eggs a numerous progeny might be preserved and multiplied in a distant climate. Religion or interest had more power over the Persian monks than the love of their country. After a long journey they arrived at Constantinople, imparted their project to the Emperor, and were liberally encouraged by the gifts and promises of Justinian. To the historians of that prince a

campaign at the foot of Mount Caucasus has seemed more deserving of a minute relation than the labours of these missionaries of commerce, who again entered China, deceived a jealous people by concealing the eggs of the silkworm in a hollow cane, and returned in triumph with the spoils of the East. Under their direction the eggs were hatched at the proper season, by the artificial heat of dung, the worms were fed with mulberries, they lived and laboured in a foreign climate, a sufficient number of butterflies was saved to propagate the race, and trees were planted to supply the nourishment of the rising generation. Expense and reflection corrected the errors of a new attempt, and the Sogdoite ambassadors acknowledged, in the succeeding reign, that the Romans were not inferior to the natives of China in the manufacture of silk, in which both China and Constantinople have since been surpassed by the industry of modern Europe.

Bruges.

The city of Bruges, in the fourteenth century, was a place of the greatest trade in Europe; in it were consuls for the regulation of trade from all the different cities and countries, and national warehouses and magazines to deposit their goods, which were brought here as the great mart. Navigation was then so imperfect that a voyage between the Baltic and the Mediterranean could not be performed in one summer. For that reason a magazine or storehouse, half-way between the commercial cities in the North and those in Italy, became necessary. Bruges was pitched upon as the most convenient station. This choice introduced great wealth into the Low Countries. Bruges was at once the staple for English wool, for the woollen and linen manufactures of the Netherlands, for the naval stores and other bulky articles of the North, and for the Indian goods, as well as domestic productions, imported by the Italian States. The extent of its commerce in Indian goods with Venice alone appears from one fact. In the year 1318 five Venetian galleasses of considerable burden, laden with Indian goods, arrived at Bruges, in order to dispose of their cargoes at the fair.

Bruges was then very powerful, and the wives of the citizens vied in splendour with majesty. 'I thought,' said a Queen of France, who happened to pass through this opulent city in the zenith of its commercial prosperity, 'I had been a great queen, but at Bruges I find fifty queens as finely apparelled as myself.'

In the year 1489, the citizens of Bruges had the folly to arrest the Archduke Maximilian, who had married Mary, the heiress of the house of Burgundy, to affront his domestics, and maltreat his officers. They even demanded assistance from the King of France and the Duke of Gueldres. This tumult, which continued fourteen months, was fatal to Bruges. The citizens at last implored the clemency of

the prince, who, however, condemned fifty-six of them to death, banished several others, and fined the city in an immense sum. From that time Bruges began to decline, and Antwerp became its rival, and soon its superior, in commercial transactions.

Antwerp.

Two centuries ago the commerce of Antwerp was superior to that of any state in Europe, two thousand five hundred merchant vessels arriving in its port annually. It is recorded that the value of the merchandize imported in 1550 amounted to one hundred and thirty-three millions of gold, and one of its merchants lent the Emperor Charles V. a million of money, and at an entertainment which he gave to him burnt the bond in a fire of cinnamon.

Since that time, when the United Provinces threw off the yoke of the Spanish government, having got possession of the entrance of the Scheldt, they built forts on the sides, and sank obstructions in the channel, to prevent a free navigation; in consequence of which, the commerce of Antwerp was ruined, and grass now grows before the warehouses of those who were once the greatest merchants in the world.

When Antwerp was in the zenith of its prosperity, and possessing an immense commerce, the inhabitants built their celebrated Bourse or exchange, the noblest in Europe at the time, for the daily resort of merchants of all nations. Upon the front of the edifice was the following inscription in Latin: 'The Senate and People of Antwerp erected this Structure for the accommodation of Merchants of all nations and languages, and for an ornament to their City, in the year 1531.'

The original name of Bourse, given to such edifices in several cities of Europe, is thus stated by Guicciardini. There was, it seems, before this time, a square commodiously situated in the middle of the city of Bruges, in which stood a large building that had been erected by the whole family of La Bourse, whose coat of arms on its walls, was three purses. The merchants of Bruges made this old house the place of their daily assemblies; and, when afterwards they went to the fairs of Antwerp and Mons, they called the places they found there for the assembling of the merchants, by the name of La Bourse, or the Bourse; which name was generally adopted, except in England, for similar edifices.

Early Commerce of France.

The ancient Gauls had no other intercourse but such as was suited to savage nations whose wants are always few. Their connexions abroad were still more circumscribed. Some navigators from Vannes carried earthenware to Great Britain, where they bartered it for dogs, slaves, pewter, and furs. Such of these articles as they could not dispose of at

me, were conveyed to Marseilles, and there changed for wines, stuffs, and spice, which were brought thither by traders from Italy or Greece.

This kind of traffic was not carried on by the Gauls. It appears from Cæsar's account, that the inhabitants of Belgia had promoted the importation of all foreign articles, tending to corrupt their morals. The Celtic and Aquitanian Gauls were not so strict; their strong passion for foreign goods, with which they could be supplied from the Mediterranean, but which they could not afford to chase, induced them to apply to a kind of commerce which they had never thought of before: they picked up all the gold dust that was brought down with the sand along the streams of several of their rivers.

After Gaul submitted to the arms of the Romans, commerce increased considerably. Ports were opened at Arles, Narbonne, Bordeaux, and other places. Magnificent edifices were everywhere constructed, the ruins of which we still behold with astonishment. Every navigable river had its company of merchants, to whom considerable privileges were granted. This rising spirit was checked by the inroads of the Franks and other barbarous nations, who laid such heavy obligations on commerce, that frequently the goods brought to market did not pay the preliminary expenses imposed on them.

Charlemagne roused the spirit of his countrymen in the seventh century. Fairs were held, to which the Saxons flocked with tin and lead from England; the Jews with jewels, gold or silver plate; the Slavonians with the metals of the North; traders from Lombardy, Provence, and Spain, with the produce of their respective countries, and the goods they received from Africa, Egypt, and Arabia; and merchants of every province in the kingdom with whatever their soil and their industry afforded. Unfortunately, this prosperity was of short duration: it disappeared under the indolent kings who succeeded Dagobert, and was not revived until the reign of Charlemagne.

Another dark period succeeded when the empire departed from the family of Charlemagne, until the reign of St. Louis, who was the first to introduce trade into the system of government. Before this time, it was only the effect of chance and of circumstances. He thought it under the regulation of stated laws, and he himself drew up statutes which have served as a model for those that have since been enacted.

These steps led the way to measures of greater importance. The old law which forbade the exportation of all productions of the kingdom, was still in force; but Louis removed this impediment, expecting that a free exportation would restore to the nation those treasures which his imprudent expedition had lost.

Philip, the son of St. Louis, endeavoured to transfer to Nîmes, a city under his jurisdiction, part of the trade carried on at Montpellier, which belonged to the King of Arragon.

The privileges he granted, produced the desired effect; but it was soon found to be an object of little consequence. The Italians supplied the kingdom with spices, perfumes, silks, and all the rich stuffs of the East; but the arts had not made such a progress in France as to afford their own manufactures in exchange, and the produce of agriculture was not sufficient to defray the expense of so many articles of luxury.

Philip le Bel, sensible of these truths, found means to improve agriculture, so as to answer the demands of foreign importations; and these he reduced by establishing new manufactures, and improving the old ones.

Since that period, commerce and manufactures advanced in progress, in proportion to the decay of feudal tyranny: and though from the reign of Henry II. to Henry IV. the civil wars retarded the progress of commerce, yet it revived under the splendid administration of Sully.

Voltaire speaking of the reign of Francis I., says, 'the French, though possessed of harbours, both on the ocean and the Mediterranean, were yet without a navy; and though immersed in luxury, had only a few coarse manufactures. The Jews, Genoese, Venetians, Portuguese, the Flemings, Dutch, and English, trade successively for us, we being ignorant even of the first principles of commerce.'

The remark of Voltaire will with some qualification apply to almost any period of the history of France, for although her commerce was sometimes actively prosecuted, yet its prosperity has been perpetually fluctuating and wanting in that stability, which a regular and well arranged system alone can secure, and without which no country will long maintain pre-eminence.

Jacques Cœur.

Jacques Cœur, Intendant General of Finances under Charles VII. of France, was at the same time one of the richest merchants who perhaps ever existed. When the king undertook the reconquest of Normandy, Jacques Cœur raised an army at his own expense, and lent several millions to his sovereign for the purpose of this expedition. While he occupied the place of Minister of Finances, he traded with his own ships to the Levant, Egypt, and Barbary. He imported into Europe furs, silk stuffs, and silver. In all the towns of France, and in every capital of Europe, he had agents for the sale of these foreign commodities on his account; and his profits annually are said to have exceeded those of all the merchants of France besides.

Merchants of the Staple.

The merchants of the Staple were the first and most ancient, and were so called from their exporting the staple wares of the kingdom, namely, wool and skins, lead and tin.

The grower of wool contented himself at first with the sale of it at his own door, or at the next town. Thence arose a class of men who bought it from him, and became a medium between the grower and the foreign cloth merchants.

In 1319, the company had the legal form of a corporation, with all its proper titles, and was the oldest mercantile corporation in England. Edward II. had, for the better collecting his duty on wool, ordained that the staple for it should be fixed at one certain place or port in the Netherlands, and Antwerp was fixed; it was afterwards successively removed to St. Omer's, Bruges, Brussels, Louvain, Mechlin, Calais.

In 1353, the staple was fixed at Westminster, which caused so great a resort of traders, that from a village it was raised to the dignity of a town; and in 1378, it was removed to the place still named Staple Inn in Holborn, where it continued principally until it was superseded by the company of Merchant Adventurers.

Merchant Strangers.

The usual English appellation for foreigners or alien merchants was, in former times, that of merchant strangers; and in the early period of English commerce, it was a law, that the aggregate body of every particular nation of foreigners residing here, were bound to answer for the misdemeanors of every individual of their number.

The first encouragement ever given to merchant strangers in England, was in the reign of Edward I., who made a statute for enabling merchants, as well in fairs and markets, as in towns and cities, effectually to recover their debts; 'the want of which good regulation,' says the preamble to the act, 'has occasioned many merchants to fall into poverty, and also hindered foreign merchants from coming into this realm with their merchandize, to the great damage of merchants, and of all the realm.'

The foreign merchants had been expelled the kingdom by Parliament, when Edward I. recalled them; but no sooner was this done, than the city of London earnestly petitioned the king to send them away again; but he refused, returning for answer, 'The king is of opinion that merchant strangers are useful and beneficial to the great men of the kingdom, and is therefore against expelling them.' The same king granted them a charter, styled, *charta mercatoria*, which while it gave them protection and privileges, laid the first great duties on merchandize.

In 1477, the merchant strangers were, by an act of the English parliament, enjoined 'to employ the money received for their merchandizes upon the commodities of the realm;' and Henry VIII., by an ill-judged proclamation, afterwards enforced this fatal measure, to the great injury of the commerce of the realm; though his proclamation stated that such a system had long 'proved a great bene-

fit to both king and subject.' The same king afterwards assumed the power of remitting to merchant strangers the duties they would otherwise be obliged to pay; which power was confirmed to him by an abject parliament.

Charles the Second was the first English monarch who afforded to merchant strangers due protection and encouragement, by taking off the alien duties on all native produce and manufactures exported by foreigners, thereby putting them on a level with English subjects.

The Medici Family.

From the bosom of commerce sprung the illustrious family of Medici, which in celebrity has eclipsed those of almost all the sovereigns of Europe. John de Medici, whose influence and ascendancy in the councils of the commonwealth arose not more from his vast possessions, than from his virtue and beneficence, was the first banker and merchant in Italy. Cardinal Colonna, after his elevation to the chair of St. Peter, by the name of Martin the Fifth, when reduced to apply to him for pecuniary assistance, scrupled not to pledge to him the pontifical crown; and afterwards created him Duke of Monteverdi. At his death, notwithstanding the immense treasures which he bequeathed to his family, yet so boundless had been his largesses and donations to the necessitous among his fellow citizens, that he was attended to the grave by a prodigious concourse of his weeping countrymen, and honoured with the title of 'Father of the Poor.' Cosmo, his eldest son, succeeded to his virtues, and far excelled him in strength of genius, power, and reputation. Banished from Florence by a triumphant faction, he was recalled only to enjoy an augmented degree of public confidence. His influence, always exerted to produce the most beneficial and laudable effects, attained a strength and solidity which no despotism could have conferred. Constantly engaged in commerce, he employed and enriched a multitude of persons, who in return sustained his own greatness. His vessels traded to every port; and his factors at Constantinople, Cairo, and along the coast of Lesser Asia, enjoyed the most distinguished consideration. The Sultans of Egypt, the Emirs of Babylon, and the Turkish Emperors, were all connected with him by commercial ties. The Palæologus, in whose family expired the Empire of Constantinople, sold him the jewels and splendid furniture of the imperial palaces, during the state of depression to which they were reduced previous to their final destruction by Mahomet the Second. To the claims to the admiration of his contemporaries and of posterity which commerce and riches could confer, Cosmo added another by his princely protection of letters. The memorable era, distinguished by the name of 'the age of the Medici,' commenced with Cosmo, and forms an epoch in the annals of literature. His house was the

asylum of genius and talents, from every part of Italy and Greece. The most precious manuscripts, preserved by his care from the barbarous rage of the Turks, and purchased by his order, were transmitted to future times. Numbers of learned men, driven by the Turkish Sultans to take refuge in Florence and other Italian states, received from his bounty a liberal provision, and repaid him by their grateful eulogiums. More fortunate in the close of life than Pericles, Cosmo, after having presided during thirty years over the republic, during which time he embellished the capital with monuments of utility and magnificence, expired at a very advanced age, free from the infirmities with which it is usually accompanied. His memory was inseparably dear to his countrymen, who, by public decree, inscribed on his tomb the glorious title of 'Father of his country.'

Bills of Exchange.

The circumstances which gave rise to the introduction of bills of exchange in the mercantile world, was the banishment from France, in the reign of Philip Augustus and Philip the Long, of the Jews, who, it is well known, took refuge in Lombardy. On their leaving the kingdom, they had committed to the care of some persons in whom they could reposed confidence, such of their property as they could not carry with them. Having found their abode in a new country, they furnished various foreign merchants and travellers, whom they had commissioned to fetch away their fortunes, with secret letters, which were accepted in France by those who had care of their effects. Thus the merit of the invention of exchanges, belongs to the Jews exclusively. They discovered the means of substituting impalpable riches for palpable ones, the former being transmissible to all persons, without leaving behind them any traces of the way they have taken.

Banks.

As soon as the simple method of transfers by deposits by means of an office for the use of the bank was experienced, and the advantages which commerce might derive from such a manner of accounts, the credit and circulation of banks were invented, and their uses improved.

1. Bank of Venice.

The republic of Venice may boast of having the first example to Europe of an establishment altogether unknown to the ancients, which is the pride of the commercial world. There is perhaps nothing which more fully proves the extent of the commerce at Venice, than that it was the first to establish a bank, since mercantile transactions have been numerous and extensive beyond what an institution could be fully perceived, or the principles of trade could be so

fully understood, as to form the regulations proper for conducting it with success.

In 1171, the republic being hard pressed by war, levied a forced contribution on the richest of its citizens, giving them the engagement of a perpetual annuity of 4 per cent. The lenders established a bureau, or office, for the reception and repartition of this interest.

This chamber became the Bank of Venice; but at what period, or on what other basis, we are ignorant. In the defect of historic evidence, let us endeavour to state what may be reasonably conjectured of the matter.

As the interest of this loan was always paid punctually, every registered claim in the books of this office might be considered a productive capital; and these claims, or the right of receiving this annuity, were probably often transferred by demise or cession from one to another.

The bureau of Venice, in effect, became a deposit bank. In 1423, its revenues amounted to above £200,000, chiefly received from the government of the republic.

Though this bank appears to have been established without a capital deposited, its shares and credit were so well supported, that its bills at all times bore a premium above the current money of the state.

The invasion of the French in 1797, terminated the prosperity of this bank; the freedom of the city and the independence of the state being lost, the guarantee, and consequently the credit, of this ancient bank vanished like a dream.

2. Bank of Amsterdam.

This bank was founded in 1609, on strictly commercial principles and views, and not to afford any assistance to the state, or meddle with its finances. Amsterdam was then an *entrepôt*, a perpetual fair, where the products of the whole earth were collected and exchanged. This great commerce brought at that time to this city the coins of all Europe; but often worn and defaced, reducing their average value 9 per cent. below that of their original stamp and issue. The new coins no sooner appeared, than they were melted or exported. The merchants could never find enough of them to pay their acceptances and engagements, and the rate or value of bills became variable to a great degree of fluctuation, in spite of all the regulations made to prevent it.

This was the condition and inconvenience of coined metallic payments two centuries ago, in the emporium, *entrepôt*, and free mart of the commerce of the globe. It was solely to remedy this vexation and impediment, and to fix the value or par of the current money of the country, that the merchants of Amsterdam established a bank on the model of that of Venice.

Its first capital was formed of Spanish ducats, or ducatoons, a silver coin which Spain had struck in the war with Holland, to support it, and which the tide of commerce

had caused to overflow in the very country which it was formed to overthrow!

The bank soon accepted the coins of all countries, worn or fresh, at their intrinsic value, and made its own bank money payable in good coin of the country, of full weight, taking a 'brassage' for this exchange, and giving a credit on its books, called bank money.

This bank professed not to lend out any part of the specie deposited within it, but to keep in its coffers all that was inscribed on its books. In 1672, when Louis XIV. penetrated as far as Utrecht, almost every person who had accounts with the bank, demanded their deposits at once, which were delivered to them so readily, that no suspicion could be felt of the fidelity of the administration of this bank. A considerable quantity of the coin then brought forth, showed the marks of the conflagration which happened soon after the establishment of the bank at the Hotel de Ville.

This good faith was maintained till about the middle of the last century, when the municipal managers secretly lent their bullion to the East India Company, and to the government, and were for a long time unsuspected. The usual oaths of office were taken by a religious magistracy, or rather by the magistracy of a religious people, that all was safe. The event proved, that oaths will not confine gold and silver always to their cells. The good people of Holland believed, as an article of their creed, that every florin which circulated as bank money, had its metallic constituent in the treasury of the bank, sealed up and secured by oath, honesty, and policy.

This blind confidence was dissipated in December, 1790, by a declaration that the bank would retain 10 per cent. of all deposits, and would return none of a less amount than 2500 florins. Even this was submitted to and forgiven; four years afterwards, on the invasion of the French, this bank was obliged to declare, that it had advanced to the States, and the East India Company, more than 10,500,000 florins, which sum they were deficient to their depositors; to whom, however, they could assign these claims to be liquidated at some future time. Bank money, which bore a premium of 5 per cent., immediately fell to 16 per cent. below current money.

This epoch marked the decay of this institution, which had so long enjoyed an unlimited credit, and had rendered the greatest services to the country. The amount of the treasures of this bank was estimated as high as 33,000,000 florins; but vulgar opinion has carried the estimate much higher.

3. *Bank of Hamburgh.*

The Bank of Hamburgh was established in 1619, on the model of that of Amsterdam; its funds were formed of German crowns, called specie dollars. From 1759 to 1769, this bank suffered much from the base money with which Germany was inundated after the seven years' war, and was obliged to shut up. In

1770, it was arranged that this bank should receive bullion as well as coin; and it soon ceased altogether to keep an account in coin. This bank now receives specie in ingots, foreign coins, as bullion only, which renders the money or paper of this bank the least variable standard of any in Europe. Those who deposit, pay less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the security, and 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for refining, when they re-demand their deposits in the proper standard; which few do, but for a profit on the metal beyond the charge, preferring at all other times the bank money.

This bank also lends its money on the deposit of Spanish dollars, by giving its receipt payable to bearer; the charge of this accommodation is only 3s. 4d. per month, or 2 per cent. per annum. The loans are limited to three months, when the deposit is withdrawn or the loan renewed.

The Bank of Hamburgh is one of the best administered in Europe; its business and accounts are open and known to the public, and its governors are responsible.

In the night of the 4th of November 1813, Marshal Davoust seized on all the treasures he found, when he retook the city. In the bank he found seven millions and a half of marcs banco; the restitution of this money has since been claimed from France.

4. *Bank of Genoa.*

This bank was founded on shares deposited, and was independent of the government; but soon after its formation, in order to secure its privileges, all its funds were placed on the security of the revenues of the state. In this fatal step, its credit was sapped and shaken; and a still more serious blow was given to it by the invasion of the Austrians in 1746. It was afterwards again established, but recovered very slowly.

Previous to the capture of Constantinople by Mahomet the Second, the republic of Genoa resigned to the bank the island of Corsica, as a security for the money in which they stood indebted to it: and when in the year 1453, that conqueror made himself master of Pera, the shock given to Genoese commerce and credit was so great, as to induce them also to make over to the body of creditors the city of Caffa, and every other colony or possession in the Black Sea. The calamities, foreign and domestic, were such at that period, that the bank shares fell 67 per cent. before the year 1464. But when Francesco Sforza, Duke of Milan, became sovereign of Genoa, the wisdom and vigour of his government soon revived its credit. Such was the confidence excited by these qualities, that the bank voluntarily resigned to him, in 1465, the sovereignty of Corsica; he, notwithstanding, declined its acceptance, and immediately stored it to that body.

Under his son Galeazzo, Caffa was lost, the Genoese commerce suffered severe deductions; but in 1468, credit revived, and shares in the bank rose proportionably.

orthy of remark and admiration, that during the revolutions, conspiracies, and political convulsions with which Genoa was affected, the prince ever attempted to violate the privileges enjoyed by the bank, or to invade the public credit, inseparably connected with that institution. In 1508, when Louis the Twelfth of France entered Genoa as a conqueror, burnt the records and archives of the commonwealth, and constructed a citadel at the expense of the vanquished citizens, he caused a solemn declaration to be registered, importing that the bank should remain in the possession of its ancient rights and prerogatives. To this inviolability was owing its permanent duration, which, though continually shaken, has never been revived.

After the middle of the fifteenth century, some of the most essential and important functions of the sovereign power devolved on, and were executed by the bank. In 1484, it received the city of Sarzana in deposit, and immediately sent a garrison thither. When Corsica revolted in 1497, the bank despatched vessels to reduce the island to subjection, and sent the general to whom the expedition was entrusted. At the peace of Cateau, in 1559, Henry the Second, King of France, reduced his Corsican conquests, not to the republic, but to the bank. In like manner, when the insurrection began anew in that island, in 1563, the bank prosecuted the war to conclusion; and the oath of submission, exacted by the rebel chiefs when they laid down arms and returned to their allegiance, in 1567, was tendered by, and received in the name of the bank.

It renders the history of this institution more remarkable is, that its administration has always been as permanent and unchangeable, as that of the republic has been varied and fluctuating. No alteration ever took place in the mode of governing and managing the affairs of the bank; and two sovereign and independent powers, at war with each other, have been within the walls of Genoa, without producing the slightest disturbance.

This confidence, and the facility with which the bank gave to many operations of commerce, and the security which it held out to those who had vested their property in it, rendered it of great importance to the republic, the loss of her colonies, and the diminution of her trade.

5. *Bank of Stockholm.*

This bank was established by the government in 1657. Its capital was 300,000 specie crowns. It issued notes bearing interest, and was payable to bearer. It borrowed money at 4 per cent, and lent it at 6. The affairs of this bank were so well administered, that at the death of Charles XII. its capital had augmented to 5,000,000.

When the new bank was established, and soon after the first. They now made advances to the government, and to the nobility; and their paper to 600,000,000 of crowns per annum, or about £8,000,000 sterling. The state of the states swelled; luxury and ex-

pense increased; even copper disappeared in bars, as in coin; and the bank paper could not be liquidated, even in this coarse metal; it fell to the ninety-sixth part of that for which it was issued. The government at last owed to this bank more than 80,000,000 of silver crowns, or more than £60,000,000 sterling.

Gustavus III. by some wise and vigorous measures, remedied much of this disorder; but at last destroyed his own labours, by making war on Russia. From this time, Sweden was overwhelmed by a paper money without value, and was so completely stripped of metallic currency, as to use notes of the low value of sixpence!

6. *Bank of Copenhagen.*

The Bank of Copenhagen was, like that of Stockholm, founded by royal authority. It was established in 1736, with a capital of 500,000 crowns. In 1745, it applied to the government to be relieved of the obligation to pay in coin; it continued still to issue its paper, and to make advances to the state and to individuals. The public suffered, but the proprietors gained; and their dividend was so large, that the shares of the bank sold for three times their original deposit.

This bank had issued 11,000,000 of paper crowns when the king returned their deposits to the shareholders, and became himself the sole proprietor. The paper issued was twenty times the amount of the capital, which had been increased to 600,000 crowns. The king carried this issue to 16,000,000; specie disappeared, and paper notes were issued for as low a sum as a single crown.

The evil was at its height when some remedy was attempted. In 1791, all further emission was forbidden, and a progressive liquidation ordered. A new bank, called the 'Specie Bank,' was created, by a capital, in shares, of 3,400,000 crowns. This bank was to be independent of the government, and the directors, who were sworn to be faithful, were at the same time, in all that related to the bank, relieved formally from their oath to the sovereign. The issue of notes was limited to less than double the amount of specie in its coffers. The former bank was to withdraw annually 750,000 of its paper crowns.

By all these means it was hoped to relieve Denmark, in less than fifteen years, from its oppressive load of paper money; but the event did not justify this expectation. When once the gangrene of a forced state paper money has seized on a country, the government and individuals struggle in vain to extirpate this 'cancer' of the political economy, by the regimen of alternatives, mild and slow in their operation. Only a decided and prompt, though painful excision, could relieve and save Denmark, sunk under an increasing depreciation. In 1804 the new notes lost 25 per cent. in exchange with the currency in which they were payable; the notes of the old bank were at a discount of 45. In October, 1813, the depreciation was such, that 1800 crowns in paper were offered for one crown in silver!

7. *Bank of Vienna.*

This bank was founded by Maria Theresa, during the Seven Years' War. The empress issued simply bills of credit for 12,000,000 of florins, ordering a proportion of the taxes to be receivable in this paper only; this regulation gave them a value higher than the metallie currency. The provincial treasuries found this paper very convenient, as it avoided perpetual transport of specie to and from the capital. But these operations were repeated too often, and carried so far, that all metallic money disappeared, and was exported or hidden.

At last, in 1797 (the very year in which the Bank of England suspended its cash payments), the Bank of Vienna could pay its notes no longer, and was freed from the obligation to discharge them in metallie money, and all were obliged by law to receive them as current money; they now ceased to be a paper, or bank bills of credit, and became a forced state paper money.

Its depreciation soon followed, but was accelerated and exaggerated by the expedient of creating a copper coinage of little value; one hundred pounds of copper was coined into 2400 pieces, and stamped as of the value of 600 florins.

In 1810, a florin of silver exchanged for 12 or 13 florins in paper. The emission of this paper was carried beyond 1,000,000,000 of florins, till, in February, 1811, the Austrian Government declared it would issue no more, and ordered it to be liquidated at one-fifth part of its nominal value, in a new paper money, called 'Bills of Redemption,' a sort of sinking fund, to be discharged by the sale of ecclesiastical property.

Though this paper was little better than the former, the reduction of quantity alone served to assist its currency and support its value; and in May, 1812, 100 florins of silver would exchange for only 186 of this paper, while the former had fallen below 12 to 1.

8. *Bank of Berlin.*

The Bank of Berlin was founded in 1765, and issued notes of from four to a thousand livres; the bank livre is an ideal money, worth at par one and five-sixteenths of the crown of English currency. This paper has always been liquidated most exactly; but neither the wisdom nor the good faith of the Prussian Government could protect it from the risk attendant on such institutions. The capture of Berlin by the French in 1806 suspended the payments of the bank; but they have since been entirely discharged, and the bank re-established.

9. *Bank of Russia.*

When the Empress Catherine commenced the war against the Turks in 1768, she established the Bank of Assignats, designed to issue notes or bills payable to the bearer. In the manifesto by which it was created, these notes were declared in general terms, and very indistinctly, to be payable in 'current money.'

This promise, however, was soon dispelled. In the first months of their issue it was ascertained that they would be discharged in copper money only, in imitation of the Bank of Stockholm. But this was as impossible as was improper. The value of copper was too small and too variable, and its transport impracticable for the purpose. As copper could not be the basis of guarantee for the value of these notes, they soon ceased to be notes of credit, and became merely a state paper money.

For a time, however, this paper money, by its convenience, the confidence of the people, the moderation of the government in its issue, and the regulation that it should be received instead of specie in all the government treasuries, bore a value above its nominal price with silver. In the first eighteen years only 40,000,000 equivalent then to nearly £55,000,000 sterling) were issued, and no more for less than 25 roubles, or about £5, at the exchange of that time.

This proceeding, with the real advantage of paper currency, made the assignats so agreeable to the public, that until 1788 they preserved an agio or premium of 5 per cent. above copper money, and silver had not more than 3 per cent. premium in its favour. In 1774, at the peace of that date, paper was at par with silver.

In 1786, the empress created a loan bank and increased the mass of assignats to 100,000,000, engaging to carry it no farther but the wars with Turkey, Sweden, Poland and Persia, forced her to break this engagement in the year 1790. At her decease in 1796, the assignats in circulation were at 160,000,000 of roubles.

This increase was too great and too sudden, and led to depreciation. In 1788 paper was at discount; in 1795 it had sunk nearly one-third, and metallie currency had disappeared so much the more, because paper notes of 10 and 5 roubles were issued, and all payments made in paper and in copper.

In 1800, the assignats sunk to a discount even with copper, which produced new difficulties; and they were afterwards depreciated to nearly one-fourth of the nominal value of their issue.

10. *The Bank of England.*

The Bank of England is the greatest of circulation in Europe. It was established in 1690, by charter, and was projected by Patterson, a keen and ardent Scotsman. It also conceived the grand design of uniting the great oceans of the Atlantic and Pacific, by an establishment at the Isthmus of Darien. The original capital was £1,200,000, which was lent to King William and Queen Mary at the high rate of £100,000 a year. It soon required an additional subscription of £300,000.

Great Britain has had an advantage over all the other states in Europe from her paper and provincial banks, which, with the regulation and prudence, might be sufficient for all the real wants of foreign commerce.

the Bank of England has combined the super business of commercial banking with national finance, and is now less a bank of circulation than an engine of the government. All its capital is placed in the public funds; the greater part of its advances is made to the government; a moderate proportion only of its paper money is employed for discounts for merchants.

The Bank of England, like all other public banks, has been exposed to the shocks of public convulsion. During the invasion of 1756, time was gained by counting out sixpences. The embarrassment which its connection with the government brought on in 1773, and the suspension of metallic payments in that period, reduced the bank-notes from a pillar of commercial credit to a state paper money. At this time only £8,500,000 of its notes were in circulation, and not £1,300,000 specie in its coffers. It was then discovered that nine-tenths of its paper served the purposes of government, and that its uses in commerce of the country had been greatly exaggerated in the public opinion; it was the private banks that fed and supported the great circulation of the country, not the trifling sum of £3,000,000 of bank of England paper employed in the discount of commercial bills.

How much have the affairs of the Bank since proved, that it is now supposed that it can, by its bullion and bills discounted, withdraw an hour (if it were physically possible) all its notes, not exceeding, perhaps, at this time, £25,000,000. The capital of its promoters and the amount of its accumulations remain, all vested in the public funds, or secured on the Exchequer bills of the state. In case there is no cause for public alarm, credit or solvency; but the mechanism of the bank is essential to the motion of all payments, of which it is the centre and pivot of regulation, as of impetus and recession.

It is a remarkable circumstance, that although the Bank of England was originally created by a Scotsman, yet it has been constant practice, almost from the period of its establishment, to exclude all Scotsmen from a share in its direction. They proportionally think with the Irishman, who some years ago feeling indignant at the superior intelligence of the Scotch over his own countrymen remarked, 'That if ever a Scotchman succeeded in acquiring a fortune in this country, he would end by becoming prime minister there; and if the Chinese emperor should let him go on, there would not be a religious, ecclesiastical, civil, or military situation in the whole empire that in the course of ten years would not be filled by Scotsmen.'

When the queen was apprised of the designs of Spain, she had no ships capable of being opposed to the Spanish fleet; a part of those which were lying in the ports and docks could only be used after twelve months, and great anxiety prevailed. This banker, however, being well acquainted with the state of the Spanish finances, knew that the Spanish fleet could not set sail but through the medium of bills, which were to be drawn upon the Genoese Bank. He therefore conceived the idea of buying up all the paper or bills that could be met with in every commercial town in Europe, and to deposit them in the Bank of Genoa, that by his large remittances he might have the said bank so in his power as to incapacitate it, whenever he chose, from giving any aid to the Spaniards. Being well aware that it only required to let those remittances be so long at Genoa, until the season should obstruct the sailing of the fleet, he calculated that these exchange operations would cost about £40,000 sterling, and he proposed to the queen to extricate her at this price from the dilemma. The proposal was accepted and carried into effect with so much secrecy that Philip's hands were tied, and he could not send out the fleet till the following year.

Prince Henry of Portugal.

While the dark ages of Europe remained strangers to every branch of useful knowledge, commerce was equally limited and neglected. Where the mind is enlarged and enlightened by learning, plans of commerce speedily rise into action; and these in return bring from every part of the world new acquisitions to philosophy and science. We find, accordingly, that exactly in proportion to the extent of intercourse which prevails among mankind, barbarity or civilization prevails. When the gloom of the feudal system hung heaviest over Europe, its whole commerce was carried on by a few unwieldy vessels, which coasted along its shores; and mendicant friars and ignorant pilgrims were the only circulators of the little literature that existed from monastery to monastery. The products in which the merchant trafficked, were all of the first necessity; and the literary intelligence of the monkish itinerant seldom comprised anything more important than the last new heresy which had disturbed the cloisters, or the name of the scholastic drone who had last disputed on the Peripatetic Philosophy at some University.

The Crusades began at length to have some effect on the commerce of Europe. The Hans Towns received charters of liberty, and united together for the protection of their trade against the numerous pirates of the Baltic. The Lombards opened a lucrative traffic with the ports of Egypt, whence they imported into Europe the riches of the East; and Bruges, in Flanders, the mart between them and the Hans Towns, became in consequence surrounded with the best cultivated fields in all Europe; a striking proof of the

Cause of the Defeat of the Spanish Armada.

A single banker secured Queen Elizabeth from all the danger with which she was surrounded by the *soi-disant* invincible Ar-

beneficial influence of commerce on agriculture. Yet these were but gleams of light, which it was reserved to the renowned Don Henry, Prince of Portugal, to prevent from again setting in the depths of night. The Hans towns were liable to be buried in the victories of a tyrant, and the trade with Egypt was exceedingly insecure and precarious. Europe was still enveloped in ignorance; and though the mariner's compass was invented before the birth of Henry, it was improved to no naval advantage. One successful tyrant might have overwhelmed the system, and extinguished the spirit of commerce, for it stood on a much narrower and much feeblér basis than in the days of Phœnician and Grecian colonization. Yet these mighty fabrics, many centuries before, had been swallowed up in the desolation of conquest. A broader and more permanent foundation of commerce than the world had yet seen, an universal basis, was yet wanting to bless mankind, and Don Henry was born to give it.

'For then from ancient gloom emerg'd
The rising world of trade; the genius, then,
Of navigation, that in hopeless sloth
Had slumber'd on the vast Atlantic deep
For idle ages, starting, heard at last
The Lusitanian prince, who heav'n inspir'd
To love of useful glory, rous'd mankind,
And in unbounded commerce mix'd the world.'

THOMSON.

In 1412, three years before the reduction of the important fortress of Ceuta, Prince Henry, who held the chief command of the Portuguese forces in Africa, sent a ship to make discoveries on the Barbary coast. Cape Nain was then the *ne plus ultra* of European navigation; the ship sent by Henry, however, passed it sixty leagues, and reached Cape Bojador, beyond which it was deterred from venturing by a violent current, which runs for about six leagues off that Cape; the navigators not considering, that by venturing out to the ocean, the current might be avoided.

About a league and a half from Cape St. Vincent, in the kingdom of Algarve, Don Henry had observed a small but commodious situation for a seaport town. On this spot, supposed to be the *Promontorium Sacrum* of the Romans, he built a town called Sagrez, which was long reputed to be the best planned and fortified of any in Portugal. Here, says Faria, where the view of the ocean inspired his hopes and exertions, he erected his arsenals, and built and harboured his ships. And here, leaving the bustle and cares of state to his father and brothers, he retired, like a philosopher from the world, in order to render his studies of the utmost importance to its happiness. To the arts of ship building and navigation, he devoted his chief attention; and to his sagacity and science is the world indebted for the first idea of the use which might be made of the compass in navigating the ocean; as also of the manner in which the longitude and latitude might be ascertained by astronomical observations.

In 1418, the prince despatched Juan Gonzalez Zarco and Tristan Vaz, on another expedition of discovery to the African coast with special instructions to attempt the passage of Cape Bojador. The two navigators, however, lost their course in a storm, and were driven to a little island, which in the joy of their deliverance they named Puerto Santo, or the Holy Haven, whence they returned to Sagrez.

The discoverers of Puerto Santo, accompanied by Bartholomew Perestrelo, were with three ships sent out on farther trial; Perestrelo having sowed some seeds, and left some cattle at Holy Haven, returned to Portugal. Unluckily he also left on the island two rabbits, whose young so increased, that in few years it was found not habitable; even vegetable being destroyed by the great increase of these animals. Zarco and Vaz, directing their course southward, discovered in 1419, the island of Madeira; and this rich and beautiful island, which soon yielded considerable revenue, was the first reward the enterprises of Prince Henry.

The island of Madeira had indeed been visited before, but this was the first settlement of that island since the days of Carthaginian commerce. The Azores, Canaries, and Cape Verde Islands, were frequented by the trading people; but such was the grossness of the Roman policy, that after the fall of Carthage, the navigation to these parts ceased. The story of Macham, the Englishman, who buried his mistress in Madeira in 1344, is also well known. Until the time of Henry, however, the regular navigation to the Madeira Islands was unknown to the moderns.

From the discovery of Madeira, twelve years elapsed in unsuccessful endeavours, on the part of Prince Henry, to carry the navigation farther; but he was now more happy for one of his captains, named Galianez, in 1434, passed the Cape of Bojador, till then invincible; an action, says Faria, in common opinion, not inferior to the labours of Hercules.

Galianez the next year, accompanied by Gonzalez Baldaya, carried his discoveries many leagues farther.

In 1440, Anthony Gonzalez brought some Moors prisoners to Lisbon, whom he had taken forty-two leagues beyond Cape Bojador; but in 1442, he was sent back with them to Africa, in order to try and open through their medium a correspondence with that country. One of the Moors escaped from him; but ten blacks of Guinea, and a considerable quantity of gold dust, were given in ransom for two others. A rivulet at the place of landing, was named by Gonzalez Rio del Oro, or the River of Gold. And the islands of Adeget, Arguim, and De las Garas were now discovered.

These Guinea blacks, the first ever seen in Portugal, and the gold dust, excited passions besides admiration. A company was formed at Lagos, under the auspices of Prince Henry, to carry on a traffic with the newly discovered countries; and in 1446 Anthony Gonzalez and two other captains were sent

enter into a treaty of peace, and traffic with the natives of Rio del Oro, and also to attempt their conversion. The proposition was, however, rejected by the barbarians, one of whom came voluntarily to Portugal, while one of the Portuguese, Juan Fernandez, remained with the natives, to observe their manners, and become acquainted with the products of the country.

In 1447, upwards of thirty ships followed the route of traffic which was now opened.

In 1448, Fernando Alonzo was sent ambassador to the King of Cabo Verde, to conclude a treaty of trade and alliance; but through the treachery of the natives, he failed in his object. In 1449, the Azores were discovered by Gonsalo Vello, and the coast sixty leagues beyond Cape Verde, was visited by the fleets of Prince Henry. It is also certain, that some of the commanders passed the equinoctial line. It was the custom of his sailors to leave his motto, *Talent de bien faire*, wherever they went; and in 1525, Loaya, a Spanish captain, found that device carved on the bark of a tree on the isle of St. Matthew, in the second degree of south latitude.

Prince Henry had now with inflexible perseverance prosecuted his discoveries for upwards of forty years. His father, John I., concurred with him in his views, and gave him every assistance; his brother, King Edward, during his short reign, was the same as his father had been; nor was the regency of his mother, Don Pedro, less auspicious to him. The town of Sagrez, from which he had not resided for many years, except when called to act on some emergency of state, Don Pedro, now in his sixty-seventh year, yielded to the stroke of fate in 1463, gratified with the prospect that the route to the Eastern World would one day crown the enterprises to which he had given birth. He had the happiness to see the naval superiority of his country over the Moors, established on the solid basis; trade greatly upon the increase; and a door opened to the universal spread of Christianity and civilization. And him, as to their primary author, are due the inestimable advantages which ever flowed, or ever will flow, from the discovery of the greatest part of Africa, the East and West Indies.

The First Man-Stealer.

John de Castilla has the infamy of standing on the list of those whose villanies have retarded the spirit of commerce, and afforded the most complaints against the progress of civilization. Having made a voyage to the Indies in 1447, he was dissatisfied with the value of the cargo he procured; and by way of compensation, ungratefully seized twenty of the natives of Gomera, who had assisted him, and brought them as slaves to Portugal. Prince Henry, however, resented this outrage, and after giving the captives some necessaries of clothes, restored them to their country and their native country.

Vasco de Gama.

The discovery of India, to which such great advances had been made by Prince Henry of Portugal, was, thirty-four years after his death, accomplished through the heroic intrepidity of the illustrious Vasco de Gama.

The voyage of Gama has been called merely a coasting one, and therefore much less dangerous and heroic than that of Columbus or Magellan. But this, it is presumed, is an opinion hastily taken up, and founded on ignorance. Columbus and Magellan undertook to navigate unknown oceans, and so did Gama, who stood out to sea for upwards of three months tempestuous weather, in order to double the Cape of Good Hope, hitherto deemed impassable. The tempests which afflicted Columbus and Magellan, are described by their different historians as far less tremendous than those which attacked Gama. The poet of the 'Seasons,' in depicting a tempest at sea, selects that encountered by Gama, as an example of all that is most terrific in this conflict of elements.

'With such mad seas, the daring Gama fought,
For many a day, and many a dreadful night,
Incessant labouring round the stormy Cape,
By bold ambition led.'

From every circumstance, it is evident that Gama had determined not to return unless he discovered India. Nothing less than such a resolution to perish, or attain his point, could have led him on. It was this resolution which inspired him, when, on the general mutiny of his crew, he put the chief conspirators and all the pilots in irons; while he himself, with his faithful brother, Coello, and a few others, stood night and day to the helm, until they doubled the Cape, and beheld the road to India before them. It was this which made him still persevere, when he fell into the strong current off Ethiopia, that drove him for a time he knew not whither. How different the conduct of Columbus! When steering southward in search of a continent, he met great currents, which he imagined were the rising of the sea, towards the canopy of heaven; which, for aught he knew, say the authors of the 'Universal History,' he might touch towards the South; he therefore turned his course, and steered to the west; from which, after all, he returned without being certain whether the land he discovered at the mouth of the Oroonoko, was an island or a continent!

Portuguese Empire in India.

When Gama arrived in India, he found, contrary to all expectation, that a great and potent commonwealth of Mahomedan merchants, deeply skilled in all the arts and views of commerce, was already scattered over the Eastern world. They had settlements on every station, from Soffala to China, and

though under different governments, formed in reality one great empire.

The Moors immediately foresaw what injury their trade would sustain, were Europeans to become acquainted with the Asiatic seas. They exerted every fraudulent art, that not one man of Gama's fleet might return to Europe; and when these arts were baffled by the prudence and courage of the Portuguese, they declared open hostility against them.

Garrisons and warlike fleets were now absolutely necessary to the existence of a naval commerce between Europe and Asia. On the return of Gama, Cabral was sent out with an armed fleet of thirteen vessels; his orders were to make alliances, to establish forts and factories, and to repel hostilities. He succeeded in his mission, and was followed by other commanders, who greatly extended the Portuguese settlements. It remained, however, to the great Albuquerque, to reduce these under a regular plan of empire. In the short space of five years, this able and disinterested governor not only opened all the Eastern world to the commerce of Portugal, but by a humane and exalted policy, established such regulations for the conduct of Portuguese subjects in the East, as made them respected and beloved by the natives. Under Albuquerque, the proud boast of the historian Faria was justified. 'The trophies of our victories,' says he, 'are not bruised helmets and warlike engines, hung on the trees of the mountains; but cities, islands, and kingdoms, first humbled under our feet, and then joyfully worshipping our government.' The Princes of India viewed Albuquerque as their father; and on his death, clothed themselves in mourning. He was buried at Goa; and it became customary for the Mahomedans, and Gentoo inhabitants of that city, when afterwards injured by the Portuguese, to come and weep at his tomb, utter their complaints to his manes, and call upon his God to avenge their wrongs.

The policy of Albuquerque's government was, however, deficient in one important respect. To increase the population and riches, and thence the strength of the mother country, by the exportation of her domestic produce, is the great and only real advantage of foreign settlement. But this appears never to have been understood by the Portuguese. To raise a revenue for the king, his master, in an honourable manner, was the sole object of Albuquerque.

Had he even appreciated the domestic advantages of a free-trade it was not in his power to open it. The King of Portugal was, from the first, sole merchant; every factory was his, and the traffic between Portugal and India was in the strictest sense a *regal monopoly*. In the course of time, the viceroys obtained leave to trade on their own account from India to Portugal; but they were not allowed to exceed a limited and determined portion. Afterwards, the same favour was extended to many other persons, both of the civil and of the military profession, but still

accompanied with great limitations and restrictions. The commerce in precious stones, pearls of every size, spices, nitre, sandals, and porcelain, were always reserved to the crown. And at last, the viceroys and all officers, both civil and military, were prohibited from carrying on any kind of commerce between India and Portugal, by a law of the year 1687.

Although the Portuguese were thus excluded from participating individually in the traffic between India and the mother country, the royal monopoly did not prevent a sort of free trade from arising in the eastern seas, which was destined in time to bring destruction upon the Portuguese empire in the East. After the death of Albuquerque, say the Portuguese authors, commenced the period when the soldiers no more followed the dictates of honour; when those who had been captains became traders, and rapacious plunderers of the innocent natives. They did not attempt to encroach upon the trade with Europe, but they interfered without scruple or restraint, in the commerce of the Moors and Indians. They carried the commodities of Ethiopia and of the coasts around Ormuz, to Malacca and China; and in return, distributed the products of the eastern, over the western shore of the Indian ocean. They were not merchants, however, but pirates; 'for it was usual for them,' says Faria, 'to obtain the loading of their ships in the military way, as if upon forage in an enemy's country.' Such rapine naturally produced attempts at resistance and revenge; and the military power of the sovereign of Portugal was wasted in protecting the mercenary private adventures of his officers, at the expense both of the national character and welfare.

When Souza became viceroy, being highly chagrined to see the military rank unenvied and his forces weakened by the great number who quitted the service on purpose to enrich themselves in the coasting trade, he endeavoured to render commerce both disadvantageous and infamous. He laid the custom houses under new regulations. He lowered considerably the duties on the traffic of all Moorish and Asiatic merchants, while he heightened the rates on the Portuguese traders; and felons and murderers banished from Lisbon, were by Souza protected and encouraged to become merchants, as the only persons proper for such employment. Although he thus laboured to render the military service the sole object of the Portuguese ambition, he was at the same time so inconsistent as to reduce the pay of the military. At the siege of Batecalla, the Portuguese soldiers quarrelled about the booty; and while fighting with each other, were attacked by the natives and put to flight. Souza commanded them to return to the charge, and revenge their repulse. 'Let those who are rich revenge it,' exclaimed the soldiers, 'we come to make good by plunder, the pay of which we are deprived.' Finding the mutiny violent, Souza retired to the ships; but the next day he renewed the siege; the city was taken, and the streets ran with blood; such was the rage

the army to recompense themselves by llation.

The coasting trade of the private adventurers became more and more piratical, and the birth to an endless succession of petty bloody wars; so that the traffic between India and Europe, which had raised the ships of Egypt to the height of their formidable power, and which had enriched India, was at length found scarcely sufficient to defray the expenses of maintaining the Portuguese government in the East. The war was not only crippled in its exertions to embrace a monopoly, which was at all times too vast for its means; but it was put to increase of expense, which actually made the monopoly of no value whatever. During the first fifty years, which was the most flourishing period of Portuguese Asia, nine or ten vessels sailed annually from Lisbon for India; but ere the close of the century, the average number was reduced to two and three, and in some years not one ship sailed, either from Lisbon to India, or from India to Lisbon.

When the unfortunate Sebastian lost his life in his African expedition, disunion and licentiousness had reached their height in Portuguese India. The natives perceived the growing weakness of their oppressors, and foretold their approaching fall. About twenty years before this period, it was the general opinion of India, that the Portuguese were among men, what lions are among beasts; and for the same reason,' said an Arabian captive to a Portuguese officer, 'nations has appointed that your species should be equally few.' But as soon as they begun to indulge in those luxuries which were the fruit of their audacious villanies, these sentiments underwent a change. 'Let them alone,' said an Indian prince to another, 'the frauds of the Portuguese revenue, and their love of luxury, will ruin them. What they gain as brave warriors, they will soon lose as avaricious merchants. They now conquer Asia, but Asia will conquer them.' In like manner, a King of Persia asked a Portuguese captain, 'how long of the Indian viceroys had been beheaded by the Kings of Portugal?' 'Not one,' replied the officer. 'Then you will not be beheaded,' replied the Persian prince, 'be the viceroys of India.'

In 1535, the court of Lisbon conceived the idea of farming the royal monopoly of the trade between Europe and India to a company of merchants, in the hope that it might, under their management, be rendered more adequate to the expenditure required for the support of the Portuguese government of India. The Portuguese India Company was accordingly established, and to them all the privileges of the crown were assigned, on condition of their furnishing the annual equipment of the ships sent out to India.

When this new commercial regulation was introduced in India, it excited the greatest discontent, and all the authority of the viceroyalty was hardly sufficient to suppress an insurrection at Goa. By its due operation,

the lucrative licentiousness of the private traders would have received some limits; and this threatened check upon their immense profits, spread a general alarm. There were stated voyages, performed under the direction of the viceroy, to collect the king's revenues in the different settlements; the commanders of these squadrons acted now without restraint as private merchants, and their profits were almost incredible. According to Faria's estimate, the voyage from Goa to China and Japan, brought the captain one hundred thousand crowns, merely for the freight of goods belonging to others, which he carried; that from Coromandel to Malacca, 20,000; from Goa to Mozambique, 24,000; and the short voyage to Ceylon, 4000. Besides these large sums, they had the profits equally great on whatever articles they chose to deal in on their own account. Even the viceroys had become private traders. In addition to their own yearly salaries, some of them cleared three, some five, and some eight hundred thousand ducats a year by merchandize. The combination raised against the company, was from all these circumstances so formidable, that all its efforts to establish itself proved abortive; and the power of the viceroy, and the piratical oligarchy, of which he was the head, continued as predominant as ever.

The Dutch at length made their appearance in the Indian seas, and were the heralds of the total subversion of the Asiatic empire of Portugal. The Portuguese valour seemed to revive for a time, and the Dutch in many engagements were defeated. Their vanquished fleets, however, carried rich cargoes to Europe, and soon returned with fresh supplies. They had, at the same time, a powerful ally in the detestation with which the Portuguese name was now regarded throughout India. That rooted odium to which their villanies and cruelties had given birth, and had long nourished, was now felt to operate more against them than millions in arms. However often defeated in war, the Dutch commerce kept still increasing; the harbours of India received them with kindness, and gave them assistance; while the friendless, detested Portuguese, though victorious in almost every contest, were harassed out of measure, and weakened every day by losses which they had no means of repairing. The mother country, to which the vain glory of maintaining a dominion which yielded nothing, had long ceased to have any charms, made no effort to arrest its fall; but on the contrary, sent directions to the viceroy for the time being, to raise money for the support of his government, by disposing of every employment and office under him by public sale, to the highest bidder. The numerous Portuguese forts were one after another stripped of the territory attached to them, and many of them suffered to fall into such decay as to be no longer tenable. Shipwrecks and dreadful tempests added to the miseries of the Portuguese, and at last the only events worth recording in a viceroyship were the solemn

feasts of propitiation held at Goa. In some of these the citizens lay day and night on the floors of the churches, imploring the divine mercy in the deepest and most awful silence, while not a sound was to be heard in the mournful streets.

So little regard did Portugal, or rather Spain, which had usurped the dominion of that country, now pay to India, that at one time three years elapsed without the viceroy receiving a single letter from the court of his sovereign. A succession of viceroys was, however, continued; but of all their numerous settlements on every coast of the Eastern world, the ports of Goa and Dio in India, and the Isle of Macao in Canton, alone remained in the possession of the Portuguese. Of the state to which their trade was now reduced, the Abbé Raynal presents a miserable picture. Two small vessels, he says, often Chinese, once in the year carry some porcelain to Goa and Dio; but these must touch at Surat and other ports to complete their return of silk and spices; and one ship with a poor cargo, partly furnished by the two sloops of Macao, and partly furnished from the English, sails once in the year from Goa to Lisbon. Such is the fall of that power which once commanded the commerce of Africa and Asia, from the straits of Gibraltar to the eastern side of Japan.

Portuguese and Chinese.

The King of Portugal, desirous of opening a trade with China, sent an ambassador and one of his captains to propose a commercial alliance. The embassy was gladly received, and a treaty concluded for a free trade with the harbour of Canton. Sequeyra, the Portuguese governor of India, afterwards sent Simon de Andrade with five ships to China; and whatever had been gained by the policy of the first envoy was lost by the insolence and folly of his successor. As if he had arrived among beings of an inferior order, he assumed an authority like that which is claimed by man over the brute creation. He seized the island of Tamori, opposite to Canton. Here he erected a port and a gallows, and while he plundered the merchants, the wives and daughters of the principal inhabitants were dragged from their friends to his garrison, and the gibbet punished resistance. Nor did he stop even here. The Portuguese in India wanted slaves, and Andrade thought he had found the proper nursery. He published his design to buy the youth of both sexes, and in his inhuman traffic he was supplied by the most profligate of the natives. These proceedings, however, soon became known to the Emperor of China; several of the Portuguese were seized, and suffered an ignominious death, while Andrade himself escaped with much loss by the favour of a tempest, after being forty days harassed by a fleet greatly superior to his own.

Not long after, Alonzo de Melo, ignorant of these transactions, entered the harbour of

Canton with four vessels; but his ships were instantly seized, and the crews massacred by the enraged Chinese.

The Chinese, however, were too politic a people to expel utterly any merchandize from their harbours. A few years having elapsed, the Portuguese who brought gold from Africa and spices from India were allowed to purchase the silks, porcelain, and tea of China at the ports of Sanciam; and an event which refutes all the Jesuitical accounts of the greatness and power of the Chinese empire, soon gave them a better settlement. A pirate named Tchang-si-lao, made himself master of the little island of Macao. Here he built fleets which blocked up the ports of China and laid siege to Canton itself. In this crisis of distress, the Chinese implored the assistance of the Portuguese, whom they had lately expelled as the worst of mankind. Two or three Portuguese ships effected what the potent empire of China could not do, and the island of Macao was given them by the emperor in reward for this eminent service.

An Awkward Passport.

When the Portuguese were lords of the Indian seas, they permitted no ship to sail without a Portuguese passport. Nor was this much regarded when avarice suggested any pretence for violating it. A rich ship of Cananor was, on a groundless assertion of its papers being forged, taken and plundered, and to conceal the villany, the unhappy crew were sewed up in the sail-cloths and drowned. The bodies of the Moors being cast on shore by the tide, the King of Cananor, who had hitherto been a valuable ally of Portugal, was so enraged at the treachery that he joined in a war against the Portuguese, which it required their greatest efforts to subdue.

Sometimes in place of a pass, the Moorish vessels carried their own letters of condemnation, as thus:—*The owner of this ship is very wicked Moor. I desire that the first Portuguese captain to whom this is shown may make prize of her.*

Origin of the Dutch Adventure to India.

When the Portuguese dominion in Asia was in its decline, Houtman, a Dutch merchant while in jail for debt at Lisbon, planned the establishment of his countrymen in the East. He transmitted his scheme to Holland, where it soon found admirers and supporters; and money was forthwith sent to release the projector out of prison. Houtman then sailed for Asia, and returned with such pledges of encouragement from the native powers that the Dutch India Company was immediately formed.

Nothing but the deep detestation in which the Portuguese were held, could have made the access to India so open to the Dutch.

by found it; for the very first commercial nation in which the Dutch were concerned with the natives, betrayed a perfidy and unfitness of character, but ill-qualified to inspire confidence or esteem. They were detected in offering money of base metal for the cargo of the first ship which they loaded with spices; and those who offered it were seized the natives. A squadron, which soon after arrived at Ternate, endeavoured to rescue its countrymen at Java, by force of arms; but were repulsed, and compelled to pay the sum which the natives demanded.

Usury.

In the thirteenth century, the Lombards violently demanded twenty per cent. for the use of money. About the beginning of that century, the Countess of Flanders was obliged to borrow money in order to pay her husband's ransom. She procured the sum requisite, partly from Italian merchants, and partly from Jews. The lowest interest which she paid to them was about twenty per cent., some of them exacted near thirty. In the beginning of the fourteenth century, pope IV. fixed the interest which might be lawfully exacted in the fairs of Champagne, at ten per cent. The interest of money in London was somewhat lower. James I. of England fixed it by law at eighteen per cent. As late as the year 1490, it appears that the rate of money in Placentia, was at the rate of forty per cent. This is the more extraordinary, because at that time the commerce of the Italian states was become considerable. Charles V. fixed the rate of interest in his dominions in the Low Countries, at five per cent., but it was not uncommon to exact more than that sum.

The first mention we have of a rate of interest in England, is in the reign of Richard I. when it was ten per cent.; it was afterwards gradually reduced, at different times, to its present rate of five per cent., at which it was fixed in 1714.

Postage of Letters.

The postage of letters, so essential to the progress of commercial intercourse, and now forming so important a branch of the public revenue, was first established in the reign of Richard the Third. The office was originally formed in the reign of his son, Edward, when stages were placed at the distance of twenty miles from each, in order to procure Edward the earliest intelligence of the events that passed in the course of his war with the Scots; but Richard committed the expedition, and it was principally owing to his sagacity and talents, that the merit of the post ought to be attributed, especially as during his reign it was especially over the principal part of the kingdom.

The revenue of the Post Office in the reign of Anne was only £60,000; in 1761, it

was £142,000; in 1769, £300,000; in 1794, £445,600; in 1800, £745,000; in 1806, £1,108,840; and in 1813, £1,414,224.

About the year 1730 to 1740, the post was only transmitted three times a week from Edinburgh to London; and one day, it brought but a single letter, which was for Sir William Pulteney, the banker; in 1790, the letters from Edinburgh averaged twelve hundred daily. The remittances from Scotland to the Post Office, in the ten years preceding 1770, only averaged £9500; but from the year 1790 to 1800, the annual average amounted to £51,500.

The Twopenny Post Office was established in 1683. It was originally planned by a Mr. Povey, author of the now obsolete pamphlet, entitled 'The Virgin of Eden, with the Eternity of Hell Torments.' He formed the design of conveying letters by messengers to different parts of the city and its environs; for some time he executed his plan with much approbation, and was distinguished by the title of the 'Halfpenny Carrier.' The ministers finding the plan too lucrative for a private subject, laid an injunction on the inventor, restraining him from carrying it on any longer; and, without giving him any compensation, took it into their own hands.

Making Conditions.

During the reign of James the First, a great dearth of corn happened, which obliged his majesty to send for the Eastland Company. He told them, that to obviate the present scarcity, they must load their homeward-bound ships with corn; which they promised to do, and so retired. One of the lords of the council said to the king, that such a promise signified little, unless they agreed at what price it should be sold; on which they were all called back, and acquainted that the king desired a more explicit answer. The deputy replied, 'Sir, we will freight and buy our corn as cheap as we can, and sell it here as we can afford it; but to be confined to any certain price, we cannot.' Being pressed for a more distinct answer, the deputy, who was a great foxhunter, said to the king, 'Sir, your majesty is a lover of the noble sport of hunting; so am I, and I keep a few dogs; but if my dogs do not love the sport as well as me, I might as well hunt with hogs as with dogs.' The king replied, 'Say no more, man, thou art in the right; go and do as well as you can, but be sure you bring the corn.'

A Singular Obstacle.

It is a remarkable circumstance, that the portrait of Henry VIII was the means of preventing a commercial treaty between the Portuguese and the King of Borneo. A Portuguese vessel having touched at that place, opened a trade there with great success. The king received the strangers with special favour, and they displayed before him the presents with which they were prepared.

Among other things, was the marriage of Henry the Eighth and Catherine represented in tapestry. When the King of Borneo saw the bluff figure of Henry, as large as life, he bade the Portuguese pack up their presents, take them on board, and leave his dominions immediately. He knew, he said, what they brought him those figures for; that ugly man was to come out in the night, cut off his head, and take possession of his dominions. There was no persuading him out of his imagination, and the Portuguese were compelled to abandon a commercial speculation which was so auspiciously commenced.

Origin of Corn Factors.

It was between the years 1740 and 1750, that corn in London first began to be bought and sold through the medium of a factor or broker. Previous to this plan being adopted, the farmers, coastways, used to attend Bear-quay once a week, with samples of the various sorts of grain, then lying off in sloops, &c., in the river. Corn being at that time cheap, as well as abundant, it frequently happened that the farmers were obliged to return home without selling their grain; and, as the Essex growers principally used the Bull Inn, in Whitechapel (which the buyers, on that account, also frequented), some of them, who had a good opinion of the landlord, whose name was Johnson (originally the shoe-boy of the inn), began to leave their samples with him, to be sold at fixed prices; but afterwards, finding him very expert as a middle man, they intrusted him with discretionary power as to market prices; which he managed so much to the satisfaction both of buyers and sellers, that, in a short time, he opened a little counting-house on Bear-quay, and called himself the corn-factor of the Essex farmers. This business he enjoyed solely till his death; and acquiring by it a considerable fortune, it devolved on his son, and afterwards on his grandson, whose partner, a Mr. Neville, who subsequently took the name of Claude Scott, joined in the corn-factoring business with the money bequeathed him by the second Johnson.

Spaniards in Mexico.

Several eminent writers have endeavoured to soften the character of Cortez, and have urged the necessity of war for the slaughters he committed. If any one, however, would trace the true character of Cortez and his countrymen, he must have recourse to the numerous Spanish writers who were either witnesses of the first wars, or soon after travelled in those countries. In these he will find many anecdotes not to be found in our modernized histories. It will be seen that Cortez set out to take gold by force, and not by establishing any system of commerce with the natives, the only just reason for effecting a settlement in a foreign country. He was asked by various states what commodities or

drugs he wanted, and was promised an abundant supply. He and his Spaniards, he answered, had a disease at their hearts, which nothing but gold could cure; and he had received intelligence that Mexico abounded with it. Under the pretence of a friendly conference, he made Montezuma his prisoner, and ordered him to pay tribute to Charles V. Immense sums were paid, but the demand was boundless. Tumults ensued. Cortez displayed amazing generalship, and some millions of the natives were sacrificed to the disease of his heart.

Pizarro, however, greatly exceeded Cortez in unmixed barbarity of soul. If we could forget that the avarice of Cortez was the cause of a most unjust and bloody war, in every other respect he would appear as one of the greatest of heroes. But Pizarro is a character completely detestable, destitute of every spark of generosity. He massacred the Peruvians, he said, because they were barbarians, and yet he himself could not read Atabalipa, amazed at the art of reading, got a Spaniard to write the word Dios (the Spanish for God) on his finger. On trying whether the Spaniards agreed in what it signified, he discovered that Pizarro alone could not read. Pizarro, in revenge for the contempt he perceived in the face of Atabalipa, ordered the prince to be tried for his life for having concubines, and being an idolator. Atabalipa was condemned to be burned; but on submitting to baptism, *he was only hanged.*

Exclusion of the Inquisition from Antwerp.

So great was the influence of English merchant adventurers in 1550, that when the Emperor Charles the Fifth was anxious to have the inquisition introduced into Antwerp, the citizens had no other means for effectually influencing the emperor against the measure, but to tell him that the English merchants would certainly leave the country if he brought the inquisition there. The threat was effectual for the emperor, on a strict inquiry, found that the English merchants maintained and employed at least twenty thousand persons in the city of Antwerp alone, besides thirty thousand more in other parts of the Netherlands.

Dutch Trade with Japan.

Perhaps there is not such an instance in the annals of commerce of the disgraceful arts; which mercantile cupidity will resort, and the degradation to which it will submit, for the attainment of its object, as in the Dutch proceedings at Japan; nor is there perhaps more remarkable example of the triumph of success and complete disappointment of commercial enterprise. From the year 1557, when the Dutch established commercial relations with Japan, until 1617 (a period of sixty years) their speculations were unrestrained, and

air profits enormous. This was the golden age of their trade; they opened a mine of wealth: and they fondly thought it inexhaustible, as well as rich and easily wrought. In 1663, the company obtained a return in gold which yielded a profit of upwards of a million of pounds. They had been accustomed to receive, for some time previous to 1663, a return of silver, to the extent of two hundred chests, of one hundred pounds each; and it was suggested, that it would be desirable for many chests of gold of the same weight to be sent in future. The gold and silver ages of Japan commerce being past, the latter half of the seventeenth century began with what the Dutch called its brazen age, that is, its export of copper, which has ever since continued the staple of the Japan market. The company was on the decline during the whole of the last century, and had become of so little importance about 1740, that the company deteriorated upon the expediency of its total dissolution. From employing, as at one time, eight or nine ships, and exporting copper to the amount of more than thirty thousand piculs of one hundred and twenty pounds each, it diminished to the use of a few vessels, and the purchase of cargoes of only six hundred pistoles.

South Sea Scheme.

The administration of the Earl of Oxford during the reign of Queen Anne, has been rendered memorable by a gigantic and ruinous speculation which he projected, called the South Sea Scheme, and which in 1711, received the sanction of an Act of Parliament. The object of the corporation was to carry on trade in the South Seas, and to encourage the fishery. Upon the establishment of this company, and a proper fund, their stocks very rapidly rose in price, and at length reached nearly one thousand per cent. It had continued for a few years with little success, but still holding out great hopes, when the company issued a *scire facias* against all other bubbles except their own; these immediately burst to nothing, and the consternation which their explosion occasioned, turned the public attention to the South Sea Company, the stock of which was then, in August, 1720, eight hundred and fifty per cent. A panic seized the subscribers; the stock sometimes fell a hundred per cent. in a single day, so that on the 29th of September, in the same year, it had fallen to one hundred and seventy per cent, and their bonds were at twenty per cent discount. By considerable art, the stock was afterwards raised to three hundred and twenty per cent.; but no projects could keep it up; the frenzy was over, and it fell gradually; the actual possessors of stock at length obliged to seek the interference of Parliament, and content themselves with a portion of the undivided South Sea stock they could obtain.

The Mississippi Scheme.

In the year 1598, the French first began a settlement at the mouth of the river Mississippi, in the Spanish province of Florida, with the intention of opening a communication with their colony in Canada, and thereby to open to them in the English colonies, so as to engross the whole Indian trade to themselves. This colony was, in 1712, granted by Louis XIV. to Sieur Crozat, for a term of fifteen years, during which period he was to enjoy the sole trade of all exportations to and from this province, as also all mines, minerals, &c., on condition of paying one-fifth to the king.

The Sieur Crozat had not enjoyed his privilege long when, in 1717, he was induced to resign his patent into the hands of a company formed by Mr. Law, the son of a goldsmith in Edinburgh. Of this bank, which was to be called the Mississippi Company, Mr. Law was appointed chief director. Into this bank all the national debts, amounting to seventy millions, and then at a discount of seventy per cent., were intended to be brought, and the national creditors were paid, not in specie, but in actions, or shares, of the Mississippi Company.

The company, the better to allure persons of property to become adventurers, made great stir and bustle in transporting artificers, planters, labourers, &c., to their colony, then called Louisiana; and in order to draw in the numerous proprietors of the national debt of France, to be paid with the Mississippi and royal bank notes, Law was, in the beginning of 1719, made director-general of the Royal Bank. In the same year he created, in different months, between forty and fifty millions sterling, in new bank notes. This was, by a royal decree, declared to be scarcely sufficient for the various operations of the bank, although, in fact, it was more than all the banks in Europe did or could circulate.

The East India Company was next joined to it, and it was called the India Company, embracing both the French East and West India colonies. In July, 1719, twenty-five millions more of state bills were subscribed into this new India Company's capital, which by this time was run a great way above par; and by the vast number of adventurers in that stock, the dirty street in Paris, called Quinquampoix, was daily crowded beyond measure.

It may be remarked, that the greatest part of the original stock of this company, was subscribed by the king and government alone, which, by the mad running up of the stock, was afterwards sold out at a thousand per cent. and upwards, and thereby it put two hundred millions into the king's coffers. In August, 1719, for the further promoting of stock-jobbing, the last fifty millions of India stock had every share split into one hundred shares, which brought in the very dregs of the people to be adventurers. The stock rose to no less than five hundred per cent.; it

fell to four hundred and fifty, on the bare rumour of Law's indisposition; but rose again to six hundred and ten per cent. on his recovery.

The company, in the same month, had the general farming of all the revenues; and such were the specious advantages held out to a credulous public, that the stock run up to twelve hundred per cent., and the last subscriptions were even thirteen hundred.

From the beginning of November, 1719, till about the middle of December following, the French India of Mississippi Company, was in the meridian of its glory. Mr. Law's credit was arrived at the highest pitch, and his levee was crowded with persons from all parts of Europe, pressing for subscriptions. The city of Paris was crowded with strangers and with foreigners from different nations, who hastened thither to deal in this stock; so that it was currently believed, there were then in Paris half a million of strangers more than usual. It is a recorded fact, that twelve hundred new coaches were set up. There was scarcely anything to be seen but new and splendid equipages, new houses, &c. Lodgings could with difficulty be obtained for money, and provisions were at the highest price.

The bubble at length burst; thousands, whose whole fortune had been embarked in this fatal speculation, were utterly ruined; and Paris, which boasted such splendour, was within a few months after, in the most miserable condition. Law, the projector, was obliged to leave France, and died in obscurity, without having acquired anything considerable for himself, although he had it once in his power to have been the richest subject in Europe.

Tom of Ten Thousand.

Among the thousand victims of that most disastrous adventure, the South Sea scheme, there was perhaps scarcely one more to be pitied than a native of Leeds, of the name of Thomas Hudson. In the early part of his life, he filled a respectable situation as a government clerk in London. While in this situation, he came into the possession of a large fortune by the death of an aunt; he then retired into the country, where he lived for some time very happily, until he unfortunately became an adventurer in the South Sea scheme; and so sanguine was he of its success, that he embarked the whole of his fortune in it.

When the news reached him of the failure of his darling scheme, he left his residence in a state of distraction, and went to London. From this moment he became insane, and 'Tom of Ten Thousand,' as he called himself, wandered through the streets, wrapped in a rug, and leaning on a crutch, and without either shoes or stockings. In this state did the poor creature perambulate, even in the coldest weather, and crave assistance from the humane, until death released him from all his troubles at a very advanced age.

Bubbles.

While those great projects, the Mississippi Company and the South Sea Scheme, were carrying on, the people of England were seized with an absolute frenzy for speculation; and no project, however ridiculous, could be started without meeting with support; nor did a proclamation of the king, in June, 1720, for restraining them, have more than a momentary effect, after which they increased more than ever.

Not a week passed without fresh projects recommended by pompous advertisements in all the newspapers. On some sixpence per cent. was paid down; on others a shilling; and some came so low as one shilling per thousand pounds, at the time of subscribing. Some of the obscure keepers of those books of subscriptions contenting themselves with what they got in the forenoon, by the subscription deposits on one or two millions, were not to be found in the afternoon of the same day; the room they had hired for a day, being shut up, and they and their subscription books never heard of any more.

While the delusion was at its greatest height, any impudent impostor had only to hire a room at some coffee-house or other house near Change Alley, for a few hours, and open a subscription-book for some project relative to commerce, manufactures, colonies, or invention; and if advertised in the papers the preceding day, he might in a few hours find subscribers for one or two millions of imaginary stock.

Among those many bubbles, there were some so barefaced and palpably gross as not to have the shadow of feasibility; and the infatuation was at length so strong, that one project was thus advertised: 'For subscribing two millions to a certain promising or profitable design, which will be hereafter promulgated.' And yet money was actually subscribed for this blind project. Another scheme was what were called Globe permits. These were currently sold for sixty guineas and upwards, in the Alley, although they were nothing more than a square bit of playing card on which was the impression of a seal in wax, being the sign of the Globe Tavern in the neighbourhood, with the inscription of 'S. Cloth Permits,' but without any name sign whatever. The possessors of these purchased them on the condition of being hereafter permitted to subscribe to a new sail cloth manufactory, projected by one who was then known to be a man of fortune, though afterwards involved in great calamities and disgrace.

Yet all men were not infatuated; some subscribed for the sake of a premium, as the stock rose immediately; and one wag thus burlesqued these mad projects in an advertisement: 'At a certain (sham) place, on Tuesday next, books will be opened for subscription of two millions, for the invention of melting down sawdust and chips, and casting them into clean deal boards, without cracks or knots.'

As a memento of the folly of the age.

sert the names of a few of these projects, on every one of which money was actually subscribed. 'National permits for a fishery,' each permit at £60, before any money was paid down by the original possessor. 'Wrecks to be fished for on the Irish coast;' 'To make the water fresh;' 'For improving the breed of horses;' 'For making of oil from poppies;' 'For raising of silkworms;' another, 'For planting of mulberry trees, and breeding of silkworms, in Chelsea Park;' where two thousand of these trees were actually planted, in many large and expensive edifices were erected. 'For transmuting quicksilver into a flexible and fine metal;' 'For trading in human hair;' 'For fattening of hogs;' 'For chasing or recovering estates illegally detained;' 'For insuring masters from the loss sustained by servants, three millions;' 'For increasing and increasing children's fortunes;' 'For a wheel for a perpetual motion;' and lastly, 'For importing a number of large asses from Spain, in order to propagate a new kind of mules in England.' For this purpose, marsh lands were treated for near a week by a clergyman who was at the head of this bubble.

Small Change.

From the reign of Queen Elizabeth to that of Charles the Second, so much inconvenience was felt in trade for the want of small change, the tradesmen and victuallers in general, as well as all who pleased, coined small money tokens for the benefit and convenience of the people. This small money, halfpence and farthings, was coined by the corporations of cities and boroughs, by several of the companies, and even by tradesmen in country villages. This affair of coining was managed with tolerable facility. At the borough of Litcham, in Derbyshire, Mr. Edward Wood, afterwards his son, Richard Wood, coined money, amongst others; and on their death, the dies and the press were found in the house. These Woods coined only halfpennies, and there were two sets of dies, one for the obverse, and the other for the reverse. The dies were apothecaries, and the device accordingly *Apollon Opifex*. The dies, consisting of an obverse and reverse, were fixed on strong blocks of iron, and being placed in a very simple screw press, wrought in the manner of a capstern with handles, many hundred of halfpence were coined in a very short time by two men; one to ply the screw, and the other to take off the pieces as they were

absolutely forbade all his subjects to buy or sell any of their commodities without immediate payment, and made the commission of that offence death!

Raising a Capital.

About fifty years back, two young fellows, brothers, went to Jamaica; they were by trade blacksmiths. Finding, soon after their arrival, that they could do nothing without a little money to begin with, but that with £60 or £70 they might be able to realize a fortune, they hit upon the following novel and ingenious expedient. One of them stripped the other naked, shaved him close, and blackened him from head to foot. This ceremony being performed, he took him to one of the negro dealers, who was so pleased with the appearance of the young fellow, that he advanced £80 currency upon the bill of sale; and prided himself much upon the purchase, supposing him the finest negro on the island. The same evening, this manufactured negro made his escape to his brother, washed himself clean, and resumed his former appearance. Rewards were then in vain offered in handbills, pursuit was eluded, and discovery, by care and precaution, rendered impracticable. The brothers with the money commenced business, and actually returned to England, not many years since, with a fortune of £20,000. Previous, however, to their departure from the island, they waited upon the gentleman from whom they had received the money, and recalling the circumstance of the negro to his recollection, paid him the principal and interest with thanks.

Curious Mode of Barter.

At Temenhint, in Northern Africa, the inhabitants have a curious mode of barter. The person who has any goods to sell mentions what he wishes to exchange for certain commodities, whether oil, liquid, butter, or shahm, which is a kind of salted fat, much resembling bad tallow in taste and smell. If liquids, he pours water into a pot, in proportion to the quantity of oil or butter he requires; if solid, he brings a stone of the size of the shahm or other article demanded. The buyer pours out water, or sends for smaller stones, until he thinks a fair equivalent is offered. The quantities then agreed for are made up to the size of the stone or the depth of the water.

Honourable Restitution.

In the month of January, 1821, a man of respectable appearance entered the Corn Exchange in Mark Lane, London, and advancing to one of the principal factors, asked him if he was the legal descendant of the head of a very ancient firm in that line, long since extinct? Being answered in the affirmative, he first made some further inquiries, confirmatory of the question, and departed. On the same

Credit.

First, King of Portugal, to regulate, and prevent the ruin of families,

day in the following week, he again made his appearance with a bag, which he presented to the factor, containing three hundred and seventy sovereigns. The factor, of course, surprised at the transaction, began to make some inquiries; but the person refused to answer any questions, observing, the property was now returned to its rightful owner; that he wanted no receipt; and that it was a matter of no consequence who he was. On referring to old documents, it appeared that in the year 1782, the firm alluded to had a very extensive army contract, in the course of which a defalcation to nearly that amount occurred.

Tobago Planter.

The most flourishing colonial establishment in the Antilles is the plantation of Mr. Joseph Robley, at Sandy Point, in the island of Tobago. Everything about this plantation has the appearance of neatness and order. The number of negroes employed amounts to a thousand, and yet among them all the sound of the whip is never heard. There are also all the classes of tradesmen necessary for such an establishment, as masons, carpenters, wheelwrights, smiths, farriers, &c.

Mr. Robley was the architect of his own fortune. He was born of respectable parents, in Cornwall, and went to the West Indies at the age of eighteen, where he was employed as a clerk. He first established in Tobago, in the year 1768, and began to cultivate the cotton plant, with a capital of about £1700. Twenty years afterwards, in addition to the magnificent establishment at Sandy Point, he possessed another plantation of great value, and had besides a large sum in the funds.

This great cultivator had also two large vessels, which came twice a year, and lay in front of his residence, for the purpose of taking his produce to Europe, and of bringing not only all that was necessary for himself and his negroes, but also merchandize, which he sold to the merchants of Tobago, and on which he gained considerable profits.

Commercial Integrity.

The Spanish galleons destined to supply Terra Firma and the kingdoms of Peru and Chili, with almost every article of necessary consumption, used to touch first at Cartagena, and then at Porto Bello. In the latter place a fair was opened, the wealth of America was exchanged for the manufactures of Europe, and during its prescribed term of forty days the richest traffic on the face of the earth was begun and finished with unbounded confidence, and the utmost simplicity of transaction. No bale of goods was ever opened, no chest of treasure examined, both were received on the credit of the persons to whom they belonged, and only one instance of fraud is recorded during the long period in which trade was carried on with this liberal confidence. All the coined silver

which was brought from Peru to Porto Bello in the year 1654 was found to be adulterated, and to be mingled with a fifth part of base metal. The Spanish merchants, with their usual integrity, sustained the whole loss, and indemnified the foreigners by whom they were employed. The fraud was detected, and the treasurer of the revenue in Peru, the author of it, was publicly burnt.

The East India Company.

Little more than two centuries have elapsed since a few British merchants humbly solicited from the princes of India permission to traffic in their territories; now the British dominion embraces nearly the whole of that vast region which extends from Cape Comorin to the mountains of Thibet, and from the mouths of the Brahmapootra to the sources of the Indus.

When commerce was as yet in its infancy and individual capitals were small, the remoteness of the country, the hazard of an untried speculation, the opposition to be expected from other European nations already possessing the favourable opinion of the natives, seem to have been generally considered as obstacles of too much magnitude for single adventurers to encounter. The first traders to the East proceeded accordingly upon joint-stocks, and when an East India Company was at length erected it was expressly stated, as the inducing consideration to the grant of the monopoly, that the trade could only be carried on by a large and united fund.

The charter which first incorporated the company was granted by Queen Elizabeth, in 1600, and the privileges it conferred were to endure for fifteen years. It gave the company the exclusive right of trading to all parts of Asia, Africa, and America, comprehended between the Cape of Good Hope and the Straits of Magellan, with liberty to purchase land, and a right of succession.

The plan upon which the trade of the company was at first conducted was of a peculiar kind. Every voyage was made a distinct concern, to which the partners of the company were at liberty to subscribe as they thought proper, without being in any manner responsible for those in which they did not engage. The effects of this arrangement differed in nothing except extent from those of a free trade. A constant rivalry prevailed between the adventurers in the separate voyages, both in India and at home, which encouraged demand and produced a brisk and prosperous commerce. Under this beneficial arrangement the result of the company's transactions, notwithstanding all the disadvantages inseparable from an infant adventure, was at the first extremely favourable. The whole capital subscribed in the course of the first eight years amounted only to £225,400, but the average profit divided among the partners was no less than 106 per cent.

In Queen Elizabeth's charter it had been

that in case the trade should be beneficial to the realm, after a trial of 1 years, new letters patent should be granted for other fifteen years, but long before the term of probation came to an end, King Charles was so satisfied with the results which had been obtained that he granted a new charter on the 31st May, 1609, by which, 'in consideration of the honour and advantage accrued upon the nation by the East India Company, he conferred upon the company 'a full continuation of all the privileges and powers contained in its original charter.' Immense profits continued to be reaped on each successive voyage.

the sixth 1610 produced	£:21	13	4	per cent.
the seventh . . .	210	0	9	"
the eighth . . .	211	0	0	"
the ninth . . .	160	0	0	"
the tenth . . .	148	0	0	"
the eleventh . . .	340	0	0	"
the twelfth . . .	133	18	4	"

the practice of engaging in separate voyages or adventures was now abolished, the partners were brought to throw their interests into one common stock, all trading interests to the East were henceforth referred to be upon the general account; and these important alterations a host of directors, presidents, and councilmen immediately started into official dignity and power. As to the members of the company had content with establishing factories on different parts of the coast; and by an honest moderate course of dealing, had been successful in securing the friendship and protection of the native rulers. The plan of making separate adventures had indeed necessitated them to this line, for each adventurer was of itself too inconclusive, and too devoted to the acquisition of wealth, to stretch its hopes beyond that in which their commercial character properly placed them. But now, that the company was acting as one great united body, was thought indispensable to assume the pomp of sovereignty. They then sending ambassadors to represent the courts of the Great Mogul and the Emperor of Persia; these ambassadors were to have the other European nations follow from India, and their possessions were added to the English company; hostile to the Dutch and Portuguese were the consequence; strong squadrons had been sent out; the treasures of the company were expended in the conflict; and in the end, they were forced to leave their rivals much weaker than they found them, and to resume their operations which had in the interval almost sunk into a great amount furnished by the company to the House of Commons, of its transacting the first four years of this century, we meet with the following table, the first year of the new system was detained in India, to defend the

company's property against the Dutch, *except one, &c.*

The money being wasted in the quarrel with the Dutch, only one ship returned, loaded with pepper, &c.

If the company had been able to carry on their trade unmolested by the Dutch, the returns in these four years would have been £600,000 more!

Until this volume of disasters became officially known, the shares of the company sold at 203 per cent.; but when the partners and the public became acquainted that matters were on such a footing as to require the sacrifice of ten or a dozen ships to bring home a single cargo, it was with difficulty that 80 per cent. could be obtained; and every attempt to raise a new joint-stock in place of that which had been so wantonly dissipated, was found perfectly ineffectual.

The trade of the company, as a body, being thus at a stand, it was found necessary to recur to the original plan of individual adventures. Several of these were, accordingly, undertaken; and though none of them appears to have been brought to a close by the adventurers themselves, they gained, upon a gross transference of their interests to the company, when it some time afterwards resumed its joint capacity, a profit of *forty, sixty, and eighty* per cent.

This second attempt of the company to act in a single and sovereign capacity was attended with no better success than the first. The joint-stock was kept up by successive subscriptions, from 1631 to 1649; but so unprofitable were all the adventures of the company, that its stock sunk at length in selling price to as low as *sixty* per cent. Among the circumstances which peculiarly injured this company in the second stage of its misfortunes, we ought to rank in the foremost place, the heedless conduct and necessitous condition of Charles I., and the civil wars which ultimately brought that unfortunate monarch to expiate his errors upon a scaffold. In order to replenish an exchequer, exhausted by inconsiderate profusion, his majesty made a levy upon the East India Company; and, as the most princely way of accomplishing his object, intimated, through the Lord Treasurer, that he was desirous of *purchasing the whole stock of pepper* in the company's possession, for the price of which, of course, the company were to take the royal promise and assurance. The company had no choice but to submit, and by this trick of sovereignty, were defrauded of £31,500. When the civil war broke out, the company were again fated to be the victims of his majesty's necessities. The commander of one of their ships, whose loyalty had survived his honesty, thought fit to run into Bristol, and make a present of both ship and cargo, worth about £20,000, to his majesty, to support him in the war with his people. In addition to all this, his majesty had thought proper to grant a sort of roving commission to some adventurers of the court, who, having despatched several armed vessels, *without any cargoes*, to the Indian

seas, enriched themselves by some piratical depredations, which brought the English name into such general disgrace, that every endeavour of our merchants to benefit themselves in a honest way, was for a long time viewed with insuperable suspicion and distrust.

On the establishment of the Protectorship, the company endeavoured to obtain a recognition of their monopoly, but for a long time without success; Cromwell persisting in giving the most unlimited encouragement to all private merchants, to traffic in the Indian seas. The consequence was, that in a few years the company was entirely driven out of the field, and had at last nothing to do but to keep up its old factories and settlements, in the expectation that some more auspicious period might render them of use.

The fair promise of prosperity which had now opened upon the trade of Britain to the East, was at length unfortunately blasted, through the joint intrigues of the English and Dutch Companies: in compliance with whose solicitations, the Protector put an end to the private trade, and reinstated the company, by a regular charter, in the full possession of its exclusive privileges.

In resuming their operations, the company revived the plan of trading upon a common stock, but at the same time, thought it right to leave every member of the company at liberty to trade to a certain extent upon his private account; a regulation which seems to show that the members themselves, as individuals, found more profit in single than in joint adventures. The benefit of this relaxation in the system was felt both by the company as a body, and by the members individually; and, as long as it lasted, served to diffuse a saving degree of life and energy through the whole of the India trade. The credit of the company now rose steadily for about thirty years; during the last nine, its profits amounted annually to £100,000, and in 1685, its stock had reached the high selling price of *five hundred* per cent.

As yet the company had never indulged in any warlike operations, except against the Dutch and Portuguese; but now it would appear they were under the necessity of engaging in hostilities with the native powers. The secret of this necessity was, that an opportunity now presented itself of gaining many things by force of arms, which they could never have expected from a course of peaceful and honest adventure. The empire of the Moguls happened at the time to be in the last stage of its decline; it was one general scene of distraction and ruin. The English, who had been hitherto invariably refused permission to make their factories defensible, promptly availed themselves of the argument which existing circumstances afforded, for now granting them this important concession. Still, however, it was denied them. The denial was made a pretext for hostilities; two strong squadrons were despatched from England; and, without any preparatory form of declaration, hostilities were at once com-

menced against the Great Mogul and all feudatory Nabobs. The moderation, however, with which the company were met the part of the native powers, prevented those extreme measures which it seems have been their wish to precipitate; and the present they were obliged to rest contented with obtaining leave to transfer the settlement to Sootanatty, a part of the country nearer the coast, and less within the control of the Nabob. In a short time, however, distractions of the empire having spread to Bengal, the company seized the opportunity of the Nabob being occupied by an attempt to his own immediate safety, to accomplish what they had so long desired, the fortification of their settlement; and, now that they were entrenched in force, the Mogul Nabob, in order to keep them quiet, were different times obliged to appease their impatient desires, with the cession of the villages of Sootanatty, Calcutta, and Gopore, comprehending a tract of three miles along the east bank of the river, and an island of Divi near Masulipatam, with liberty besides of purchasing no less than thirty-seven towns on the banks of the Hooghly.

The expense attendant on these proceedings in India, left little to supply the luxury at home, and that little was either bezzled or secreted by a set of projectors, in concert and connivance with servants of a corrupt government. To an extent had a system of speculation and speculation arisen, that in one year, the directors took credit for £90,000, under the title of *secret services*, while they declared themselves unable to make any dividend to the public. Such infamous delinquency did not escape the attention of parliament: and it was followed by a suspension of the powers of parliament. That the Duke of Leeds, the president of the privy council; and Sir Thomas Cook, governor of the company, escaped the exemplary punishment. In consequence of all these misdemeanors at home and abroad, the partners were deprived of any dividend on their stock for several years previous to the peace of Utrecht, and the credit of the company sunk at length into utter distress. This pecuniary embarrassment of course suspended the ambitious schemes of the company, and left the native powers a longer time to crumble and decay, before they should be finally broken down by the English power.

The misconduct of the company induced the private merchants again to make application to recover a share of the Indian trade. The matter having been referred by the king to parliament, the latter returned an address, praying that the company *should be dissolved*. The consideration of this address was suspended by a prorogation of parliament; and some time afterwards the king granted them a renewal of their charter for twenty years. The grant of these charters was afterwards under the consideration of parliament, and was accompanied by the remonstrance which threatened

it, was got rid of by a second proposition. At length, the government found it necessary to give way to the general feeling of the people upon the subject; and they granted licences unreservedly to private merchants to trade to the East.

Monetary exigency, in the year 1698, induced the government to suggest to the common propriety of a loan, in consideration of which, they held out to them the prospect of obtaining a *parliamentary* confirmation of their privileges. The company accordingly agreed to advance £700,000 at four per cent.; and private traders having in the mean time associated for their mutual interest, they lately endeavoured to counteract this measure by proposing a loan of *two millions* at five per cent., on condition of obtaining the same privileges as were offered to the original company, but with this alteration, that they should be allowed to conduct the trade by *their own adventures*. The company thought this stroke of policy, by also offering of two millions. But neither government nor parliament could be gained over their prepossession in favour of the private traders; and the consequence was, their being taken into a new company, under stipulations which breathe a great deal of that true and wise spirit which the revolution at length infused into the councils of the country. The most important are, that subscribers to the loan of two millions, should each on his *own separate account*, have a reservation to the king to incorporate into a joint-stock company, if they shall think it, and that they shall not borrow *for any other purposes but those of trade*. This fair prospect which this new company offered for its prosperous trade with the East, was, however, destroyed by an adroit manœuvre of the old company. As soon as the subscription opened for the new stock, Mr. Dubois, the manager of the old company, came forward in the direction of his constituents, and himself subscribed £315,000. This sum, which was held by other great capitalists, was in a way to the interests of monopoly and management of the new company, that no beneficial was ever effected under its

The first step taken, was to adopt the plan given to the members to incorporate themselves into a joint-stock body, like the old company; and the ultimate result was one which, perhaps, Mr. Dubois did not anticipate, and certainly could not prevent—so keen a contest between the companies of monopolists in their exertions of territorial influence, that it had nearly effected the ruin of both. The stock of the old company was actually reduced as *seventy-seven* per cent.

The union was at length effected between the two companies, during the reign of Queen Anne. Their separate stocks and properties were sold out, and they were incorporated under the name of 'The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.' This is the company that subsists at the present day.

Since that period, the extension of the British power has been most rapid; and our empire in India now embraces sixty millions of subjects, who are kept in subjection by forty thousand Europeans.

Commerce has increased in the same proportion as the acquisition of territory. The first order of the East India Company for the importation of tea, was in 1677-8: it was for their agents to send *one hundred pounds weight* only! In 1814, the quantity of tea consumed in England was 24,640,000 lbs.; yielding a revenue to the government of more than four millions sterling.

A Rare Dividend.

The *London Gazette* of October, 1818, contained a most extraordinary advertisement; it announced to the creditors of Bogle and Co., formerly of Love Lane, Eastcheap, who were bankrupts in the year 1772, being a lapse of *forty-six* years, that they or their legal representatives might receive the full amount of their respective debts. The total amount advertised was about *five thousand five hundred pounds*. The lowest sum mentioned was a glover's bill for 5s. 4d.; the largest a banker's, £920. The list of creditors enumerated a curious medley of professions, viz. snuff merchants, tailors, haberdashers, shoemakers, &c.; and one debt was due to a Mr. Shakspeare, Alderman of the city of London, merchant.

'Rich Spencer.'

Among the citizens of London, it has not perhaps in any period of its history produced one who possessed more public spirit, wealth, and patriotism, than Sir John Spencer, who was lord mayor in 1594. This princely citizen, who resided in Crosby Square, Bishopsgate, in a house which had formerly been the residence of Richard the Third, when Duke of Gloucester, is said to have died possessed of £800,000, acquired in the pursuits of commerce.

In a curious pamphlet printed in 1651, and entitled 'The Vanity of the Lives and Passions of Men,' there is the following singular anecdote respecting 'Rich Spencer,' for so Sir John was usually called. 'In Queen Elizabeth's days, a pirate of Dunkirk laid a plot with twelve of his mates, to carry away Sir John Spencer; which if he had done, fifty thousand pounds had not redeemed him. He came over the seas in a shallop, with twelve musketeers, and in the night came into Barkin Creek, and left the shallop in the custody of six of his men, and with the other six came as far as Islington, and there hid themselves in niches, near the path in which Sir John came to his house [Canonbury House]; but by the providence of God, Sir John, upon some extraordinary occasion, was forced to stay in London that night, otherwise they

had taken him away; and they, fearing they should be discovered, in the night time came to their shallop, and so came safe to Dunkirk again.

Sir John Spencer left an only daughter, who was carried off from Canonbury House in a baker's basket, by William Lord Crompton, who married her. From this union, the Earls of Northampton are lineally descended.

A Merchant Sovereign.

When Georgia was invaded by Aga Mohammed, the founder of the present Persian dynasty, the only one of the Khorassanian chiefs who was not obliged to give hostages of fidelity, was Isaac Khan, chief of Turbet e-Hyde.ee, a man of low birth, who by the peaceable pursuits of commerce, had been able, like the Medici family in Italy, to obtain a territory of two hundred miles in length, and to raise himself from being overseer of a caravansary, to the rank of an independent sovereign. His revenue was reckoned at £200,000, of which £80,000 proceeded from his purchased land property; £80,000 from his subjects, and £40,000 from the profits of his merchandize. He had 6000 troops in his pay, but chiefly trusted to his policy for the maintenance of his power; nor did ever prince more securely reign in the hearts of his subjects, and of the merchants whom he had attracted to his new emporium. To these, as well as to pilgrims and beggars of every country and religion, his hall was always open; and it was his principal relaxation from the fatigues of government and of traffic, to dine in company with this motley multitude, conversing on equal terms with all, acquiring an accurate knowledge of everything which concerned the welfare of his people, and surprising his guests with his affability, and his deep and various learning.

French Trade with Constantinople.

The French were the first people admitted to carry on a trade with the Ottoman empire, and no other nation was suffered but under the French flag. The chief article in which they dealt, was cloths, of which they used to sell upon an average fifteen hundred bales per annum. These cloths were generally sold to a company of Greek drapers, who were remarkably punctual to their engagements. The Jews too bought something, but they had only small capitals. The certainty of a sale gave rise to the foundation of a guarantee bank. A premium of 3 per cent. was levied on every bale of cloth, and lodged in this bank; and at the year's end, a dividend was made among all the French commercial houses, in a just proportion to their deposits; first deducting custom-house duties, losses by failures, &c.

At one period, the Greek and Jew draper entered into a combination, so that only one purchaser presented himself, and there was consequently no competition. The French ambassador, however, succeeded in breaking this combination, by obtaining a firman from the Grand Seignior, prohibiting any collusion among these merchants, under severest penalty.

When the revolution broke out, the French had eleven commercial houses in Constantinople.

French in India.

The history of the connexion of the French with the East Indies, commences with a singular exhibition of a company invested with the exclusive monopoly, and yet almost entirely without ever having a single ship employed in the prosecution of the trade. This company was incorporated in 1604, for a period of fifteen years; and in 1611, it obtained an addition of twelve years to the term of privilege. But during the whole of this period, it seems never to have been able to make one commercial adventure to the East. As soon as the charter of this company expired, some private merchants of Dieppe embraced the opportunity of despatching ships to India and Madagascar, and for many years carried on a most lucrative trade in the field, where a body of monopolists had been able to achieve anything. In 1664, these exertions were interrupted by the revival of the plan of a joint-stock company. Colbert, who was then minister of France, captivated by the success which had attended the enterprises of the Dutch company, and overlooking entirely the difference in the character of the two nations, projected the celebrated company of the East Indies. His hopes were sanguine, and nothing within the reach of royal and ministerial influence was left unemployed to establish the company upon a broad and respectable basis. It was invested with the exclusive privilege of trading with India, for a term of *fifty* years, exempted from duties on every kind, outward or inward, and promising a premium of fifty livres for every ton of merchandize exported, and seventy-five for every ton imported. The capital of the company was declared to be fifteen millions of livres; the king engaged to lend the fifth part of the sum necessary for the first five voyages; and to give life, splendour, and popularity to the whole establishment. Honours and hereditary privileges were promised to all who should distinguish themselves in promoting its prosperity.

The grant of so many favours in the way of encouragement and temptation, is incompatible with the supposition that a commercial spirit existed in the country, equal to support and prosecution of so extensive a system of trade, as was projected in the establishment of the company. A sense of pecuniary interest and habits of industry, must be at the foundation of every general system.

trade; and when these do not of themselves excite to adventure, it is in vain to expect that the pageantry of dignity, or anything else in the gift of kings or ministers, can afford an adequate impulse to national exertion. A desire to do good to his country seems to have formed the essence of Colbert's ambition; but an unfortunate anxiety to witness greatness with his own eyes, made him lose sight of the immense way which lies between the origin of the spirit of enterprise, and the loss of commercial prosperity; while the prospect of a great establishment seduced him to a measure which, by binding up the infant energies of the people in a pernicious system of monopoly, actually retarded their progress more than anything which could ever have been directed towards that eminence upon which his hopes were set. The actual events in the history of the company, are in unison with these remarks. Of the proposed capital of 10,000,000, only 8,000,000 could be procured, including a loan of 2,000,000 from the king; and although his majesty afterwards confirmed his claim for these 2,000,000, and gave the company a present of another sum of the same amount, yet so inadequate did it prove itself, in the course of a few years, to the exigencies of the trade, in consequence of the want of capital, and the unprofitable manner in which all monopolies are conducted, that it was under the necessity of laying open the trade to private merchants, and hiring out the vessels for freight. Its whole sales for 17 years, from its establishment in 1664, to 1781, had amounted to no more than 1,000,000 livres, or on an average, 455,000 livres annually; and during the same period, three-fourths of the capital stock, or, 7,500,000 livres, had been totally dissipated.

The opening which was now made for private merchants, was eagerly taken advantage of; but the great profits they speedily realised, so roused the envy of the members of the company, and deluded them into new speculations, that at the end of two years, the trade to private traders was withdrawn, and the company resumed its commercial operations. Twenty years of trial, however, only proved to the disastrous condition of its affairs. Its capital was at length lost, and many millions of debt incurred. The company, in 1793, was at a stand, and again they were obliged to open the trade to private merchants.

In the competition which now ensued, the merchants of St. Malo's are celebrated for their enterprise and success. The profits realised to have arisen in many cases to the amount of *fifteen hundred per*

cent in his situation, matters continued until when the company of the East Indies was absorbed in that great national bubble, the 'Company of the Indies,' set afloat by the late king. The intercourse of private traders with the East, was immediately interrupted, but it was not until the bubble burst, that anything was done for resuming the monopoly of the East India trade. The king then attended the adventures

of the company, was certainly an exception to the usual course of French monopolies. In 1734, their sales at L'Orient are said to have amounted to 18,000,000; and in 1754, to have reached 36,000,000.

The war which broke out with Britain, in 1754, put a final stop to the prosperity of the company; for although the trade revived for a while between 1764 and 1768, the company had by that time involved themselves to such an extent, that they were soon obliged to recur to the old expedient of admitting private merchants to a share in the trade. This palpable concession brought the French government to a proper sense of the interests of the company's exclusive privilege, and restored to the people, as a right, what the company were anxious to have held the power of conferring as a favour.

In the first rush of adventure, it was an unavoidable evil, that the field should be overrun, and many reap only disappointment and ruin; but the experience of a few years had the natural effect of restoring competition to its level, and putting an end to ruinous speculations. The number of vessels which sailed from France to India and other parts of the East, has been computed at three hundred and forty. The greatest sales were in 1776, when they were estimated at 32,800,000 livres.

The war in which France was involved by the part it took in the American revolution, again suspended all intercourse with India, the private traders being unable to keep the seas against the British cruisers. In 1785, the king endeavoured to revive the trade by the establishment of a new 'Company of the Indies.' For a few years it enjoyed a variable degree of prosperity; but at last the revolution put an end to this, as well as many other abuses, and the nation was restored, by a decree of the National Assembly, to the right of a free trade with every part of the world. The war, however, in which France was subsequently engaged with Britain, and the expulsion of its fleets from the ocean, prevented its inhabitants from taking any advantage of this abolition of the monopoly.

Inland Trade of India.

In order to give an adequate idea of the extensive inland commerce of India, it would be necessary to trace the route, and to estimate the number of the various caravans which transfer goods in this vast region. Could this be ascertained with accuracy, it would be a valuable addition to commercial history.

The most celebrated of these caravans, are two which visit Mecca. The first takes its departure from Cairo in Egypt; and the other from Damascus in Syria. The former is composed not only of pilgrims from every part of Egypt, but those who arrive from all the small Mahomedan states on the African coast of the Mediterranean, from the empire of

Morocco, and even from the Negro kingdoms on the Atlantic. When assembled, the caravan consists of at least fifty thousand persons; and the number of camels employed in carrying water, provisions, and merchandize is still greater. The journey, which in going from Cairo and returning thither is not completed in less than a hundred days, is wholly performed by land.

The caravan from Damascus, composed of pilgrims from almost every province of the Turkish empire, is little inferior to the former in number; and the commerce which it carries on is scarcely less valuable.

It appears that the commerce carried on by caravans in the interior parts of Africa is not only widely extended, but of considerable value. Besides the great caravan which proceeds to Cairo, and is joined by Mahomedan pilgrims from every part of Africa, there are caravans which have no object but commerce, which set out from Fez, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, and other states on the sea coast, and penetrate far into the interior country. Some of them take no less than fifty days to reach the place of their destination; and as the medium of their rate of travelling may be estimated at about eighteen miles a day, the extent of their journey may be easily computed. As both the time of their outset and their route are unknown, they are met by the people of all the countries through which they travel, who trade with them. Indian goods of every kind form a considerable article in this traffic; in exchange for which, the chief article of barter is slaves.

Egypt.

Though ancient Egypt exported some manufactures, fine linen in particular, as well as some other goods, yet it was always most distinguished for its exportation of grain. Before the time of Constantine, Egypt and Africa maintained Rome; and after that emperor had removed the seat of empire to Byzantium, Egypt was charged with provisions for the latter capital. The transport of grain, which varied according to the diversity of seasons, wants, and circumstances, was under the direction of an officer, subordinate to the Prefect of the Prætorship of the East.

Constantinople is now almost entirely supplied with grain from Egypt; the transport of which is greatly facilitated since Mahomed Ali has had the public spirit to complete the line of inland navigation from Damanhout to Alexandria, which enables the boats to dispense with the dangerous passage across the bar of the Mediterranean. The richness and fertility of Egypt will appear from the following statement of its annual exports to Constantinople:

Wheat, 1,500,000 quintals (ancient weight of France); pulse, 900,000 quintals; grain of different sorts, such as maize, lentils, lupins, &c., 950,000 quintals; rice, 700,000 quintals; flax, 30,000 quintals; hemp, 15,000 quintals;

linseed oil, 12,000 quintals; saffron, 22,000 quintals; indigo pastel, 2,000 quintals; 60,000 quintals; nitron, 1,000,000 quintals; salt of nitre, 50,000 quintals; wool, 500 quintals; raw and refined sugar, 33,000 quintals; hides, raw and dressed, 40,000.

The grain sent annually to Constantinople is not the only tribute which the Pacha obliged to pay to the Ottoman Porte. He is also bound to find subsistence, for a specified number of days, to the great caravan, which passes every year from the coasts of Barbary to Mecca, and to those which set out every third year from the states of Morocco for the same pilgrimage. The subsistence of the cities of Medina and Mecca is likewise supplied by Egypt; and it is Ali who regulates a competent quantity for their consumption.

Predatory Sirdar.

The Sirdar of Armenia monopolizes nearly the whole trade of the province to himself, and those who interfere with it are sure to suffer most severely; yet his rapacity is always successful. During a cessation of arms with the Russians, he prohibited, by orders of his court, but much against his will, all the *chappours*, or predatory excursions, to which his troops were accustomed. But having heard of a large caravan, richly laden, that was travelling from Teflis, he called some of his soldiers about him, and said, 'You know that we are strictly ordered to abstain from chappow on the Russian territory, and a caravan is now on its way from Teflis.' The hint was sufficient, and they immediately departed to see what might be done. A few days after, the sirdar's travelling merchant arrived in the greatest distress, saying, that as he was proceeding with a caravan from Teflis, with great quantities of rich goods for the Sirdar's service, he had been plundered of everything by a band of ruffians who had assailed the caravan. The sirdar had, in fact, robbed himself. His goods, under the care of the merchant, had become the prey of his soldiers; and with every inclination to punish them, he was obliged for his own credit to overlook the offence.

Mercantile Patriotism.

The Marquess de Roux de Corse, one of the chief merchants of Marseilles, carried a patriotic zeal to such a pitch, that, in 1790, he published a manifesto, declaring war in his own private name against the King of England; and put to sea no less than two frigates, to cruise against British commerce.

The marquess had a rival in a Jew of Bordeaux, of the name of Gradis. He fitted out, in 1761, the *Prothée*, of 64 guns, which captured the *Ajax* Indiaman, worth eight lions (of francs). He had several frigates of 36 guns cruising at the same time on his account. The *Prothée* was the only vessel

in which the French had at this time in the European seas.

In these cases it perhaps may be said, with a strong patriotic feeling, that it is not some motive of gain; for it has been in England, as well as France, that the most cruel and unprincipled persons have done the most injury to the enemy, and no small profit to their owners.

Mogadore.

Mogadore, considerable facility is afforded to commerce by the excellent regulation of the imposts, and the manner in which the business of the imports and exports are regulated. The market is also under peculiar regulations. Every morning an officer goes round of the stalls, pastes up a piece of paper, on which is written what is to be the price of beef for that day. The attention of the dealer is so severe and vigilant, that no dealer dares to exceed that fixed price, though he is at liberty to sell as much below it as he pleases. Thus, much trouble is saved, and no imposition can be practised on the consumer, as the meat is rarely sold below the fixed price. The price of the meat is regulated like the price of cattle, which are constantly brought in without the gates, and are always

are taken off by merchants, who sell them in retail at Cairo, or in the small towns of Egypt. Even at Cairo they are not always finally disposed of in the first instance. The khan of the slave traders, which is near the mosque El Azher, is crowded with pedlars and petty traders, who often bargain with the merchants of Upper Egypt, for slaves immediately after their arrival, and content themselves with a small profit for the re-sale. There are also merchants from Smyrna and Constantinople residing constantly at Cairo, who deal in nothing but slaves; these persons export them from Alexandria, and it often happens that they pass through three or four hands between Alexandria and their final destination in the northern provinces of Turkey. Such is the common lot of the unfortunate slaves; but many instances happen of a still more rapid change of masters. At Shendy and Ense (says M. Burkhardt) I have seen slaves bought and sold two or three times before they were finally removed from the market; after which, perhaps, if the master at the end of a few days' trial did not find them answer his expectations, he would again put them up for sale, or exchange them for others. In fact, slaves are considered on the same level with any other kind of merchandize, and as such, are continually passing from one merchant to another.

Nubia.

Very small capital is required to carry on business in Nubia, although it is a nation of slaves. None of the merchants of Shendy carry more than about fifteen hundred dollars; and most of them carry on business with less than two hundred. The market of Shendy is held upon a wide open space between the two principal quarters of the town. Three rows of small shops built of mud behind the other, in the shape of a shed about six feet in length, by four feet high, and covered by mats, are occupied by more opulent tradesmen, who carry their goods to their respective shops every day, and back to their houses in the evening, the shops have no door by which they can be secured. The other merchants sit on the ground, under a kind of shed or shed of mats, supported by three long poles, which can be turned in all directions to keep them in, so as to afford sufficient shade to the dealer and his customers at all times of the

Brotherly Community.

It is melancholy to think that the principal business of commerce is that of human beings, and that the slave trade is carried on here to a great extent. It is calculated that the number of slaves sold annually in the market of Shendy is not less than five thousand; the price of a slave from eight to thirty dollars.

In Shendy, the slaves are generally bought from the Egyptian or Abadhe merchants. On their arrival in Upper Egypt, they are sold either at Esne, Siout, or Cairo. The first two places, entire lots of slaves

In a memoir on the trade of the republic of Genoa, drawn up in 1752, we meet with the following interesting account of the trading community of Languella. Near Cape de Mella, upon the coast of Genoa, is a village called Languella, which a hundred years ago did not exist. It owes its origin to a fisherman, who about that time settled on the shore, and being afterwards joined by some of his companions, they all together carried on a trade for fish, which for some time they sold along the coast as far as Genoa on one side, and Marseilles on the other. Their unanimity, and the mutual assistance they gave one another, soon put them into a condition to undertake something more considerable. Though the situation of their new settlement, which is no other than an open shore, defended only from the south-west wind by Cape de Mella, together with their narrow circumstances, would not permit them to have any other vessels than small pinks; their courage, industry, success in trade, and continual practice, have taught them to use these vessels to such advantage, that at this day there are not more bold or dexterous navigators than those of Languella. They penetrate everywhere by means of these small vessels. Having found the art of doubling the surface of their sails they seem to fly through the waves, and always escape the best sailing corsairs which give them chase. This prosperity is maintained by a wise custom which they have established, of sharing among themselves the loss as well as the profit. They are enemies to usury. They have among

them several inhabitants who go no more to sea, but are concerned in equipments, from which they draw a pretty certain revenue, which they prefer to landed interest. At Languella they seldom enter less than six hundred livres upon a vessel; and this concern is, properly speaking, an action which is paid upon the arrival of the ship, with profit or loss according to the success of the voyage. The sailors have nothing certain but their maintenance in the voyage, but they are allowed to have a small adventure, and in the nett profits of the equipments, they are accounted stockholders for six hundred livres each, and share on that footing with the other owners. If the voyage is unfortunate, their loss, time, and trouble are reckoned in lieu of their share of the outfit. We may therefore judge with what ardour they are animated, and what courage, strength, and address, they derive from the fear of working to no purpose, and the hope of gaining stock without any expense. Ineffectual efforts have been made to engage some young men of Languella to settle at San Remo, where they have been offered the most honourable matches in town.

American Trade to China.

The first American vessel that went on a trading voyage to China, sailed from New York in February, 1784; but so rapidly did the commerce thus opened increase, that in 1789, there were fifteen vessels at Canton, being a greater number than from any other nation except Great Britain. The United States now import more goods from China than are wanted for home consumption, and the surplus is exported to other countries.

The balance of trade with China is much against the United States, as few articles, either domestic or foreign, are shipped directly from the United States to that country. The payments for Chinese goods have been generally made in specie, or in sealskins taken in the South Seas, and furs procured on the North-West of America, and carried from those places direct to China, without being brought to the United States. The amount of specie exported to Canton, is between two and three millions annually.

Trading with the Chinese.

The following passage, extracted from the evidence appended to the report of the committee of the House of Lords on the foreign trade of Great Britain, exhibits some striking features of the habits of the Chinese, and shows the difficulties which must ever attend commercial transactions with this people, until some great change takes place in their character. It occurs in the evidence of William Simmons, Esq., clerk of the committee of warehouses, which has the general management of the East India Company's commerce.

'The uncontrolled introduction of British

ships and seamen into China, would lead to difficulties which, perhaps, might bring ruin upon the whole British trade. I fear it would be so from my reading; I have no personal knowledge upon the subject, not having been in China. The Chinese laws for the government of the conduct of all persons frequenting Canton, are extremely strict; and in cases of homicide, however accidental, the laws are cruel in the highest degree, and altogether unsuitable to European maxims and principles. I have heard that, in the case of a ship *Lady Hughes*, the gunner was firing a salute upon some public occasion, the Chinese boats were lying about, and by accident the wadding struck a man and killed him, and also hurt another, who eventually died from the hurt; it was perfectly accidental; the Chinese authorities, however, stopped the trade, and threatened to seize all the foreigners in the port, and particularly the chief of the English factory. After a good deal of time they were constrained to give up the unhappy gunner to the Chinese authorities, doing what men could do to save his life; the local authorities gave them reason to suppose that his life would be spared, but they said they must refer it to the emperor. The late emperor, Kien Long, was considered to be a very humane man, but the emperor's edict was that as the foreigners had killed two of his subjects, he would manifest his unbounded goodness and mercy by requiring the life of only one of the strangers; and, therefore, ordered that the gunner should be put to death, and he was strangled accordingly, although it was admitted on all hands that the cause of offence was a perfect accident.

'How long ago was this accident?'

'About thirty years ago. About eight or nine years ago there was a ship lying in the China River, moored with two hawsers; a Chinaman came in a boat with an axe to cut one away; the man on deck told him to keep off, but he would not, upon which the man on deck took up firearms and fired, not at the man, nor meaning to do it, nor did he kill him, but the man in his fear fell overboard and was drowned; his friends set up a great appeal of blood, as they call it, and it cost about £20,000 in bribes to get the matter suppressed, which was paid by the Hong merchants. A third case occurs to me of a Chinese man, who was intoxicated, beating a Chinese porter with a stick; the Chinese porter was not sober himself. From bruises and intoxication, the Chinaman died, and his countrymen brought his body and put it against the English factory, and insisted on having some Englishman (they did not care who) give up; it was to keep up their own character with the emperor. The case was referred to the emperor; but the authorities of Canton had been bribed with a very large sum of money, it was said eighty thousand dollars, and the result was that the report to the emperor alleged the man's death to have been caused by the fall of a piece of wood which had been incautiously placed to prop open an upper window of the English factory. A

inflicted upon somebody of twelve tales, amounting to four pounds; so that any homin may be got over for money, provided an ail is prevented being made by the family. Inference I would take the liberty of resting from this is, that the East India Company having a permanent establishment of houses and warehouses, and tangible property in China, to a large amount; in case of dispute with other British subjects, the Company would be sure to stand in the way to make up all public grievances, and to the danger to the company of uneducated British subjects going out as masters of ships, possibly hotheaded and unthinking men, might get into those difficulties.'

H. Toone, Esq., who has been a superintendent at Canton for fifteen years, gives the following statement also of a circumstance, which, he observes, occasioned 'a very embarrassing negotiation with the Chinese.' Some seamen, I believe belonging to the *Cumberland*, were in Canton, between them and a Chinese a dispute was said to have arisen, which terminated in the murder of the latter. This occasioned a demand made to the company's servants on the part of the government that the murderer should be given up for trial; every endeavour was made to discover the offender, but we did not attach sufficient guilt to any person, to obtain sufficient evidence to justify the company's servants in stating the name of any particular person to the Chinese as the one who had thought the offender. I believe the murderer was suspended for six weeks or two months by the Chinese, and the discussion was ultimately settled, if my recollection serves me right, by the man whom the Chinese believed to be the culprit being sent to England, with a promise on the part of the superintendents that the government of England would cause him to be tried, and if found guilty, to be punished. The Canton government would not listen to those or to any other mode of accommodation for upwards of six months, during which the trade was entirely suspended.'

Evils of Monopoly.

Early in the year 1766, the agents and superintendents appointed by the East India Company's servants for carrying on their inland trade took their places at their different mart stations, and being the deputies of merchants who yesterday were soldiers and conquerors, they of course carried with them arms which soon enabled them to get into possession of those necessities of life which had been taken to themelves; the right of supplying the inhabitants of the country; and when they were once under their hands, they were then only to be had on terms in which the consumers had no choice. These were necessities of constant use, and constant of the cities, towns, and villages could not do without them for a day. The people were without remedy, without aid; the same set of men who formed this

plan and carried it into execution, were the masters of their country. Their authority, and the use they made of it, addressed itself as forcibly to the fears as to the feelings of the natives.

The English stores now began to deal out their salt, betel nut, and tobacco, to the people for money; when that failed, for their goods; when these grew scarce, then the struggle lay between keeping what they had, and getting what they wanted. Barter, under circumstances of such inequality in the dealers, produced, as it necessarily would produce on the part of the people, extreme penury and want.

While these demands for money and goods were spreading as universally as the use of salt, the officers of the government pressed for the taxes with more than usual eagerness; they had now to furnish a tribute to the king, an allowance to the nabob, and keep the revenue of the Company at what it had been fixed, before the agents of inland trade began to collect the people's money by warrants of necessity. The tax-gatherers were let loose upon the subjects with as little restraint as the collectors of taxes could be in any country. The nabob could not call them to account, had he been ever so wise and willing to relieve the people; neither were oppressions restrained by the English, who alone had the power. The Company's principal servants had set out upon the plan of raising their fortunes from the people only by proxy; but when oppression has nothing to fear from justice, it is no wonder that avarice should lay aside caution, and become principal in violence.

The property of the people, however, did not flow into the hands of their masters so rapidly as some of them desired, to complete their fortunes, and enable them to return to England. The monopoly of salt, betel nut, and tobacco, proved in fact disproportioned to their desires, for they could not be using the burjaut every day, and without it the contest was slow and tedious, the natives parting with their pence with the same sparing hand as the agents parted with their salt. Money in this current came but by drops; it could not quench the thirst of those who waited in India to receive it.

An expedient, such as it was, remained to quicken its pace; the natives could live with little salt, but not without food. Some of the agents saw themselves well situated for collecting the rice into stores; they did so. They knew the Gentoos would rather die than violate the precepts of their religion by eating flesh. The alternative would therefore lie between giving what they had, and dying. The inhabitants sunk. Those that cultivated the land, and saw the harvest at the disposal of others, planted in doubt; scarcity ensued; then the monopoly was easier managed; the people took to roots, and food they had not been accustomed to eat. Sicknes followed; the rice-holders overstocked their market; many of the people died before they bought. In some districts the languid living left the bodies of their numerous dead

unburied. At length a horrid pestilence and dreadful famine raged together. Those who fell not in despair and death, were roused into furies, and fear at length opened the inhuman doors which the hand of power had kept closed for the terms of avarice, whose insatiable appetites made such monsters of its slaves.

A Greek Adventure.

The only Greek ship that ever touched at an American port, arrived there in 1811; she was called the *Jerusalem*, and had a cargo of wines; in entering the port of Boston she ran aground, and sustained so much damage that it took some months to repair her. The captain, having in vain endeavoured to sell his cargo, proceeded to the Havana, where he was not more successful. He then returned to Boston, and having become involved in law suits with artful and designing men, his ship was seized, his cargo sold at one-half of the value, and himself reduced to such distress, that he was obliged to beg for subsistence, until a subscription was opened to defray the expense of his return to his own country. All his crew died in prison.

Naval Piety.

The captain of a Greek vessel and his crew, a few years ago, astonished the inhabitants of Marseilles, by carrying the cargo of their small vessel, consisting of rice, to the market place, and distributing it gratis to the poor.

It may easily be supposed, that their customers increased rapidly, when the circumstances were made known; and several other cargoes might have been speedily disposed of on the same terms. This act of charity and munificence on the part of these humble, but worthy individuals, while it does them great honour, exhibits in a striking manner the influence of the Christian religion.

These poor men were caught in a dreadful storm in the Mediterranean, and having betaken themselves to prayer, according to the forms of the Greek church, they made a vow to give their cargo to the poor, if Providence should be pleased to spare their lives, for the sake of their wives and families. The storm abated, and they gained Marseilles in safety, where they rigidly performed their vow.

Inland Navigation.

With the exception of the nations of antiquity, the Chinese are the first who appear to have cultivated the science of inland navigation, and even at this day, they stand unrivalled in this respect. In the empire of China, there is not a town, or even a village, which has not a canal, by which means navigation is rendered so common, that almost as many people live on the water as on the land.

The great canal, which is also called the royal canal, is one of the wonders of the

world. It was finished about the year 980, 30,000 men were employed forty-three years in finishing it. It runs from north to south, extending from the city of Canton to the extremity of the empire; and by it, all kinds of foreign merchandize entered at that city, and conveyed directly to Peking, being a distance of eight hundred and twenty-five miles. Its breadth is about fifty-feet, and its depth about six and a half, so that it is sufficient to carry vessels of considerable burthen, which are managed by masts and sails, as well as by oars; some of a smaller sort are towed by hand. The emperor of China is said to employ ten thousand ships, abating one for reason very peculiar. This canal passes through, or near, forty-one large cities; it has seventy-five vast sluices to keep up the water, and pass the barques and ships when the ground will not admit of sufficient depth of channel, besides several thousand draw-bridges and others. Innumerable canals are cut from this main canal, and the whole empire abounds with canals, rivers, lakes, and rivulets.

These canals are cut through any kind of private property, gardens, plantations, or pleasure ground; not even the gardens of the emperor, or any of his governors, are exempted; but when the work arrives at the garden or pleasure ground, the governor, or even the emperor himself, digs the first spade of earth, and pronounces with an audible voice, 'This is to let those of inferior situation know, that no private pleasure shall obstruct the public good.' There are bridges over these canals of three, five, seven, or more arches, to open a free communication with the country. The middle arch is generally very high, that barques and barges may pass under it with their masts standing. When the water is high, and liable to overflow the neighbouring fields, they take care to open the sluices to convey it away, and to keep it at a certain height in the canal. There are inspectors appointed to survey the canal, and visit it continually; and workmen always ready to repair the damaged places.

Father Magallante tells us, that there is a passage by inland navigation, from one end of the empire of China to the other, being a space of 600 French leagues, or 1800 miles, and that a traveller may go this whole distance entirely by canals or rivers, except a single day's journey by land, to cross a mountain; an advantage which this Jesuit, who made the voyage himself, observes, is not to be found in any other kingdom or state in the universe.

In China one large canal generally runs through every province, and a vast number of smaller ones are cut from that large one, which again are subdivided into still smaller ones, or rather rivulets, that end at some village or great town; sometimes they discharge themselves into a lake or large pond, from which all the adjacent country is watered; so that these clear and plentiful streams, embellished by a great number of fine bridges, bordered by neat and convenient banks, equally distrib-

ed through vast plains covered with a prodigious number of towns and cities, whose streets they fill, and whose streets they form, render China one of the most fruitful and most beautiful countries in the world.

Caravans of the East.

The commercial intercourse which was not only kept up by the provinces in the east of Asia with Hindostan and China subsists; and among all the numerous tribes of Tartars, even those which retain pastoral manners in the greatest purity, demand for the productions of these two regions is very considerable. In order to supply them with these, caravans set out annually for Boghar, Samarcand, Thibet, and all other places, and return with large quantities of Indian and Chinese goods. But the trade carried on between Russia and China in this part of Asia is by far the most extensive and best known. The commercial intercourse of Europe were so well acquainted with the mode of carrying on this trade, that after the Portuguese had opened the communication with the East, by the Cape of Hope, an attempt was made to diminish the advantages which they had derived from the discovery, to prevail on the Russians to relinquish Indian and Chinese merchandize from the whole extent of their empire, by land carriage, and partly by means of navigable rivers, to some port on the Baltic, which they might be distributed through the part of Europe.

A scheme, too great for the monarch then on the throne of Russia to carry into execution, was rendered practicable by the conduct of Ivan Basilowitz, and the genius of the Great Catherine. Though the capitals of the two empires were situated at the immense distance of six thousand three hundred and eighty miles from each other, and the way for above four hundred miles through an inhabited desert, yet caravans travelled from the one to the other. Though it had been stipulated, when this intercourse was established, that the number of persons in each caravan should not exceed two hundred, and that they were shut up within the walls of the caravanserai during the short time they were to remain in Pekin, and were allowed to travel only with a few merchants, to whom a monopoly of the trade had been granted; yet, by annulling all these restraints and pressing the jealous vigilance with which the government excludes foreigners from all intercourse with its subjects, was relaxed, and the admission of the Russians into the empire was soon prohibited. Various negotiations, and an expedient at length devised, by which the advancement of mutual commerce were secured, without infringing the cautious arrangements of the policy. On the boundary of the two great empires, two small towns were built, one Russian, Kuchuk, inhabited by the Russians, and the other Chinese, Tsin, inhabited by the Chinese. To

these all the marketable productions of their respective countries are brought by the subjects of each empire; and the furs, the linen, and woollen cloth, the leather, glass, &c., of Russia are exchanged for the silk, cotton, tea, rice, &c., of China. By some well-judged concessions on the part of Russia, their trade is rendered so flourishing, that it amounts annually to upwards of a million sterling, and is the only trade which China carries on, almost exclusively, by barter.

Fair of Makarieff.

On the confines of Europe and Asia, and near the Wolga, is situated the miserable village of Makarieff, celebrated for the great fair which is held there in July every year. For the space of a month, a few poor huts, built on a sandy desert, are replaced by thousands of shops, erected with a promptitude peculiar to the Russians. Taverns, coffee-houses, a theatre, ball-rooms, a crowd of wooden buildings, painted and adorned with exquisite taste, spring up. It is impossible to form an idea of the throng of people of all nations who flock to Makarieff during this time. There we find assembled, for the purposes of trade, Russians from all the provinces of the empire, Tartars, Tchouvaches, Tcheremisses, Calmoucks, Bucharians, Georgians, Armenians, Persians, and Hindoos; and besides these, there are Poles, Germans, French, English, and even Americans. Notwithstanding the confusion of costumes and languages, the most perfect order prevails. The riches which are collected together in a space of less than two leagues are incalculable. The silks of Lyons and Asia, the furs of Siberia, the pearls of the East, the wines of France and Greece, the merchandize of China and Persia, are displayed close to the commonest goods and most ordinary articles.

The author from whom we have taken these preliminary remarks, adds the following singular description:—"I had almost forgot," says he, "one of the most remarkable articles of merchandize in this fair, and perhaps the most interesting to the ladies of Europe. Among the precious commodities from Asia, which are to be found at Makarieff, the Cachemere shawls indisputably hold the first rank. For several years past they have been brought in large bales. I have seen a shawl for which 3000 rubles were asked, though, according to my taste, it was better suited to be spread as a carpet on the divan of an Indian prince, than to cover the shoulders of a lady.

"One of my friends, who had an opportunity of attending as a witness at the purchase of a parcel of these manufactures, has given me an account of the transaction, which appears to me so curious, that I think the detail will be amusing.

"The conclusion of a bargain for shawls always takes place before witnesses. Having been asked to attend in that capacity, I went to the fair with the purchaser, the other witnesses, and a broker, who was an Armenian,

We stopped at an unfinished stone house, without a roof, and we were ushered into a kind of cellar. Though it was the abode of an extremely rich Hindoo, it had no other furniture than eighty elegant packages, piled one upon the other, against the wall.

'Parcels of the most valuable shawls are sold without the purchaser seeing any more than the outside of them; he neither unfolds nor examines them, and yet he is perfectly acquainted with every shawl, by means of a descriptive catalogue which the Armenian broker, with much difficulty, procures from Cachemere. He, and his witnesses, and brokers, for he sometimes has two, all sit down. He does not, however, say a word; everything being managed by the brokers, who go continually from him to the seller, whisper in his ear, always taking him to the farthest corner of the apartment. This negotiation continues till the price first asked is so far reduced, that the difference between that and the price offered is not too great, so that hopes may be entertained of coming to an agreement. The shawls are now brought, and the two principals begin to negotiate. The seller displays his merchandize, and extols it highly: the buyer looks upon it with contempt, and rapidly compares the numbers and the marks. This being done, the scene becomes animated; the purchaser makes a direct offer, the seller rises, as if going away. The brokers follow him, crying aloud, and bring him back by force; they contend and struggle; one pulls one way, and one the other; it is a noise, a confusion, of which it is difficult to form an idea. The poor Hindoo acts the most passive part; he is sometimes even ill-treated. When this has continued some time, and they think they have persuaded him, they proceed to the third act, which consists in giving the hand, and is performed in a most grotesque manner. The brokers seize upon the seller, and endeavour, by force, to make him put his hand in that of the purchaser, who holds it open, and repeats his offer with a loud voice. The Hindoo defends himself, and wraps up his hand in the wide sleeves of his robe, and repeats his first price in a lamentable voice. This comedy continues a considerable time; they separate, they make a pause, as if to recover strength for a new contest; the noise and the struggling recommence; at last, the two brokers seize the hand of the seller, and, notwithstanding all his efforts and cries, oblige him to lay it in the hand of the buyer.

'All at once, the greatest tranquillity prevails; the Hindoo is ready to weep, and laments in a low voice, that he has been in too great a hurry. The brokers congratulate the purchaser; they sit down to proceed to the final ceremony—the delivery of the goods. All that has passed is a mere comedy; it is, however, indispensable; because the Hindoo will by all means have the appearance of having been deceived and duped. If he has not been sufficiently pushed about and shaken; if he has not had his collar torn; if he has not received the full complement of punches in the ribs, and

knocks on the head; if his right arm is not black and blue, from being held fast, to make him give his hand to the buyer; he repents of his bargain till the next fair, and then it is very difficult to make him listen to any terms. In the affair in which I assisted as a witness, the Hindoo had demanded 230,000 rubles, and came down to 180,000; and of this sum he paid 2 per cent. to the brokers.

'Our whole party, the seller, buyer, brokers, interpreters, and witnesses, sat down with crossed legs upon a handsome carpet, with a broad fringe, spread on purpose. First of all ices were brought, in pretty bowls of China porcelain; instead of spoons, we made use of little spatula of mother-of-pearl, fixed to a silver handle by a button of ruby, emerald, turquoise or other precious stones. When we had taken refreshments, the merchandize was delivered.

'The marks had been verified a second time and all found right; new disputes arose about the time of payment; and when everything was at last settled, the whole company knelt down to pray. I followed the example of the rest, and could not help being struck by the diversity of the faith of those who were here assembled: there were Hindoos, adorers of Brama and of numerous idols; Tartars, who submitted their fate to the will of Allah, and Mahomet, his prophet; two Parsis, or worshippers of fire; a Calmouck officer, who adored in the Dala Llama, the living image of the divinity; a Moor, who venerated I know not what unknown being; lastly, an Armenian, a Georgian, and myself, a Lutheran—all three Christians, but of different communions—a remarkable example of toleration.

'My prayer was fervent and sincere. I prayed to Heaven to be pleased to cure the women of Europe, as soon as possible, of their extravagant fondness for this article of luxury. The prayer being ended, we saluted one another, and every one emptied his bowl: never tasted a more agreeable beverage. When then separated, and each went his own way.'

In the summer of 1816, a great fire destroyed the buildings appropriated for magazines and shops at Makarieff. In consequence of this misfortune, it was proposed to remove the fair to Nishni-Novogorod. The Russians appear to be much divided in their opinion on this subject, most of them thinking that St. Marçayi was the patron and founder of Makarieff, the fair could not be removed without offending the saint. Notwithstanding this superstitious scruple, the removal of the fair to Nishni-Novogorod was determined upon. A plan for the necessary buildings at Nishni-Novogorod was drawn up, and laid before the emperor, who approved of it, and assigned a large sum for the execution of it.

Ameen-ad-Dowlah.

The modern state of Ispahan is in a great measure identified with the history of Ameen-ad-Dowlah, who was originally a greengrocer in that city. His first rise from this humble station was to become the *Ket-Khoda* a

uty' of his *'mahal* (or division); his next become that of a larger mahal. He then promoted to be the *Kelauter* (or mayor) of the city; and thence he became the *Thau-* or chief) of a rich and extensive district - Ispahan, where he acquired great reputation for his good government. He afterwards made himself acceptable in the eyes of the late king, by a large *persh-kesh* (or present); and as the then governor of Ispahan was un of dissolute life, oppressive, and unjust, succeeded in deposing him, and was him-appointed the *Beglerbeg*. Here, from his great knowledge of the markets, and of the resources of the city and its inhabitants, he managed to create a larger revenue than had ever before been collected. He became the partner of every shopkeeper, of every farmer, and of every merchant; setting on foot those with capitals who were in want, and raising the means of those who were idle in trade. He thus appeared to confer benefits, when, by his numerous monopolies, he raised the price of almost every commodity. But as this revenue was apparently acquired without the oppression of the tenant, his reputation as a financier greatly increased; and in spite of all the opposition of his enemies, he advanced rapidly in the confidence of the reigning monarch, and in honour to which it led. When the pretender came to the throne, his zeal, his readiness, and particularly his presents, led to him a continuation of the royal favour: and, at length he rose to be the *en-ad-Dowlah*, the second vizir of the

How he acquired the riches which enabled him to emerge from his green-grocer's stall, is not exactly known. His friends say, that during the last civil wars in Persia, a string of Jaafer Khan's mules were kept close to his house, in the middle of the night, when two of them were, by chance, stolen from the rest, that they strayed into his yard, and that they happened to be laden with effects, in precious stones, and articles of great value, which, on the subsequent destruction of that prince, he appropriated to himself. This would make an episode in an Arabian night's tale, and it may be said, that by these, or other means, he made presents to the Shefa, then the prime minister, for the sake of being permitted to stand in his

place. There cannot be a stronger instance than this of the few qualifications, either of knowledge or learning, that are necessary to make a statesman in Persia. He is as ignorant as a green-grocer may well be supposed.

Since his elevation, necessity has forced him to learn how to read and write; but he has succeeded so ill, that he can scarcely make out a common note, or connect words together in writing. That the learning is a dangerous thing, is ever better applied than to him; for to read an audience of the king, being called on to read a list of presents just received, he made so great a mistake, that his majesty

grew wroth, and was about to inflict summary punishment, when he got out of the dilemma by offering, on the spot, a large sum of money as an apology for his ignorance. Sancho managed these things better.

But in his particular department, that of raising money to feed the king's coffers, perhaps no man in Persia has ever surpassed him, and with all this, the people of Ispahan, from whom the greater part of his riches are derived, are in general very well disposed towards him. He takes a pride in the improvement of the city and its environs. The public buildings have been repaired and beautified, new avenues have been planted, the cultivation has considerably increased, and there is a more general appearance of affluence and prosperity.

Nelson and the Americans.

There was no period in the glorious life of Lord Nelson, in which he showed more promptness of decision, or a more perfect reliance on himself, than in an affair in a very early part of his brilliant career. When Nelson was a Captain, and serving in the West Indies, being aware that after the peace of 1783, the Americans became as much foreigners as any other nation, he ordered all the American vessels to quit Jamaica within forty-eight hours, declaring, in case of refusal or their presuming to land their cargoes, that he would seize and prosecute them in the Court of Admiralty. Nelson did this on the authority of an Act of Charles II., which declares that 'no foreigners, directly or indirectly, shall have any trade or intercourse with his majesty's West India Islands.' The governor and several merchants opposed his conduct, but he took upon himself this severe and extensive responsibility, and he checked the mischievous practices which had hitherto prevailed, by repeated seizures, at the risk of damages and expenses, which might have involved him in ruin. In the mean time, the Americans, who had considerably profited by this intercourse, encouraged by their friends on shore, as well as by the collectors and comptrollers of the different customs of the islands, resisted the threats and orders of Captain Nelson, presuming not only on their right to trade, but from an opinion that the officers of the king's ships had no legal power to seize any vessels, without having deputations from the customs, which they were well assured would not be granted in those seas.

Captain Nelson, conscious of the rectitude of his conduct, continued to enforce the orders he had already given, and added, 'that he knew no other reasons for sending the king's ships abroad in time of peace, but for supporting the trade and protecting the commerce of the country.' In this zealous discharge of his duty at Barbadoes, Antigua, St. Kitts, Nevis, &c. he was more particularly supported, at the Islands of Grenada and St. Vincent, by Captain Collingwood, in the *Mediator*; and his brother, Captain Winefred Collingwood,

in the *Rattler*; in consequence of which, great numbers of the American vessels were proceeded against in the Admiralty Courts, and were regularly condemned.

The innumerable difficulties, however, under which he had long laboured, now continually increased. The planters were to a man decidedly hostile to his conduct. The governors and presidents of the islands gave him no support; and the admiral, wavering between both parties, and having no decided opinion, merely addressed a memorandum to Captain Nelson, advising him 'to be guided by the wishes of the presidents of the council.' On the arrival of the *Boreas*, Captain Nelson, at Nevis, in 1785, he found four American vessels there, deeply laden, and with what are termed the island colours flying, which are white with a red cross. These vessels were immediately visited, and the masters of them directed, as it was known they were American vessels and had American cargoes on board, to hoist their proper colours, and leave the island in forty-eight hours; they denied being Americans, and refused to obey the orders of Captain Nelson. On this, an examination of their crews took place on board the *Boreas*, in the captain's cabin, and before the Judge of the Admiralty, who happened to be on board, when they all confessed that they were Americans, and that their vessels and cargoes were wholly American property. They were accordingly proceeded against in the Court of Admiralty at Nevis; and, notwithstanding the opinions and pleadings of the greater part of the learned counsel of the different islands, who had assembled to defend the Americans, in the hope of proving that Captain Nelson, without a deputation from the Customs, was not authorized to seize the traders, that great officer pleaded his own cause so ably, and refuted their specious arguments so completely, that the four vessels, with their cargoes, were condemned as legal prizes to the *Boreas*.

Captain Nelson, in a letter to his friend Captain Locker, describes his situation at this time as very distressing. 'Subscriptions,' says he, 'were soon filled to prosecute me; my admiral stood neuter. I had suits taken out against me, and damages laid at the enormous sum of £40,000. When the trial came on, I was protected by the Judge for the day; but the Marshal was desired to arrest me, and the merchants promised to indemnify him for the act. The Judge, however, having declared he would send him to prison if he dared to do it, he desisted. I fortunately attached myself to an honest lawyer; and, don't let me forget, the President of Nevis offered in court to become my bail for £10,000, if I choose to suffer the arrest; he told them I had only done my duty; and although he suffered more in proportion than any of them, he could not blame me. At last, after a trial of two days, we carried our cause, and the vessels were condemned. I was a close prisoner on board for eight weeks; for had I been taken, I most assuredly should have been cast for the whole sum. I had nothing left but to send a memorial to the

king, and he was good enough to order me to be defended at his expense, and sent orders to General Shirley to afford me every assistance in the execution of my duty; referring him to my letters, as there was contained in them what concerned him not to have suffered.'

On his return to England, Captain Nelson long suffered for this bold exercise of his judgment; and while at his father's seat at Burnham Thorpe, he was insulted by a citation to answer a future award, to the amount of £20,000. The treasury at length did him tardy, but effectual justice, by completely indemnifying him for a measure which did him infinite honour, and rendered an important service to the commerce of his country.

Neutrals.

While the *Sparrow* cutter, commanded by Captain Wylie, was cruising off Cape Tibroon in the island of St. Domingo, it chanced and came up with an American brig, whose cargo, added to other circumstances, created such suspicion of her being enemy's property that it was thought proper to send her into Port Royal for examination.

The American captain, however, swore positively, through thick and thin, to the truth of the papers which he produced, that the Admiralty Court was induced to set him at liberty, when he instantly commenced prosecution for demurrage against Lieutenant Wylie for having detained him.

In this state of the affair, Lieut. Fitts of the navy (then a midshipman commanding a small tender), arrived in Port Royal, and went on board the *Sparrow* to visit Wylie, whom he found exceedingly low-spirited, the idea of the ruinous damages which would be awarded against him, on account of the Yankee.

Fitts, on hearing the name of the captain and brig, and the nature of the cargo, desired his friend to be under no apprehension, if she was yet a good prize.

He then explained, that cruising in his tender near the spot where the *Sparrow* had chased the vessel in question, and much about the same time, they had caught a large shark and were surprised on hearing the men employed in cutting it open, sing out, 'stand to receive your letters, my boys, for here's the postman come on board!' handing out at the same moment a bundle of papers from its maw. These were but little injured by the digestive powers of the animal, and Fitts retained them.

They now appeared to be the real papers of the American, which he had thrown on board when pressed in the chase, and which had been swallowed by this shark. This proved, beyond a doubt, that the cargo was French.

The two gentlemen proceeded instantly to Kingston with this new decisive evidence, but all further investigation was rendered unnecessary, for the captain of the brig was thunderstruck on hearing the circum-

seized in moving, and petrified by frost) gives a horrid life to this dead scene. Had an enchanter's wand been instantaneously waved over this *sea* of animals, during their different actions, they could not have been fixed more decidedly. Their hardness, too, is so extreme, that the natives chop them up for the purchasers like wood, and the chips of their carcases fly off in the same way as splinters do from masses of timber and coals. The provisions collected here are the product of countries many thousand wersts beyond Moscow. Siberia, Archangel, and still remoter provinces, furnish the merchandize which, during the frost's severity, is conveyed thither on sledges. In consequence of the vast quantities of these commodities, and the short period allowed for the existence of the market, they are cheaper than at any other part of the year, and are therefore bought eagerly to be laid up as winter stock. When deposited in cellars they keep good for a length of time. At certain hours every day the market, while it lasts, is a fashionable lounge. There you meet all the beauty and gaiety of St. Petersburg, even from the imperial family down to the Russian merchant's wife. Incredible crowds of sledges, carriages, and pedestrians throng the place, the different groups of spectators, purchasers, vendors, and commodities form such an extraordinary *tout ensemble* as no other city in the world is known to equal. During this mart of congealed merchandize affecting scenes often occur. The provisions are exported from the most remote provinces of this vast empire, and the infinitude of sledges necessary for their conveyance are accompanied by boors. It is not often the case that for more than one season the same persons travel with them, and this change of conductors is produced by motives more honourable, more powerful, than interest itself. Whenever a new levy is made for the army, a given number (according to the state's necessity) is taken from every five hundred vassals capable of bearing arms. Most of the villages have been thus deprived of some of their inhabitants, and it is with the affectionate hope of again seeing their different relatives that many aged men accompany these frozen caravans. St. Petersburg is the extent of their views. The knowledge of that city and of their own village bounds their geographic acquirements; it is thither all their wishes tend, for to that spot alone they falsely believe is fixed the object of their fond solicitude. Ignorant of any particular corps, and only conscious that it is a *soldier* they seek, under the liveliest impressions of expectation and affection, they momentarily look for the blessing of again embracing a son, a brother, or some other near and beloved kinsman. Actuated by similar feelings, hundreds of soldiers are seen going from group to group, searching for their own parents among these patriarchal strangers. To the observation of a benevolent individual the scenes are delightful. Nothing can be more affecting than to witness their joyful meetings, fathers embracing their sons, brothers their brothers. But expressions of disappointment frequently

excite more distressing sympathies, and the heart saddens while listening to the impatient inquiries of many, who are soon deprived of their dearest hopes by the information that another country contains their offspring, perhaps another world.

Colbert.

Soon after Colbert came into the management of the finances of France, he sent for the principal merchants of that kingdom, and in order to ingratiate himself with them, and to acquire their confidence, he asked what he could do for them? They unanimously answered, 'Pray, sir, do nothing! *Laissez-nous faire.*'—'Let us do for ourselves.'

The Darien Company.

Darien, or the isthmus of Panama, connecting as it does the continents of North and South America, is one of the most important provinces in the new world, and has been the scene of more actions of interest than any other in America. The wealth of Peru is brought hither, and then exported to Europe. This has induced many enterprising people to make attempts on Panama, Porto Bello, and other towns of this province, in hopes of obtaining a rich booty.

The Scots got possession of a part of this province in 1669, and attempted to form a commercial establishment that would have been one of the most useful and important that ever was projected. The projector and leader of the Darien expedition was a clergyman of the name of Paterson. By this obscure Scotsman a project was formed to settle on this neglected spot a great and powerful colony, not as other colonies have for the most part been settled, by chance, and unprotected by the country whence they went, but by system, and calculated to ensure the ample protection of those governments to whom he was to offer the project. Paterson had ascertained that roads could be made with ease along the ridge between the North and South Seas, by which mules, and even carriages, might pass from the one to the other in the course of a single day, and consequently this passage seemed to be pointed out by the finger of nature as a common centre to connect together the trade and intercourse of the universe.

Paterson's original intention was to offer his project to England, as the country which had the most interest in it, not only from the benefit common to all nations, of shortening the length of voyage to the East Indies, but by the tendency which it would have had to connect the interests of her European, West Indian, American, African, and East India trade. He communicated his project to several persons in London, but these few discouraged him.

He next offered his project to the Dutch, the Hamburgers, and the Elector of Brandenburg, but none of them supported it.

last he, through the influence of Fletcher Saltoun, got some persons to engage in it in Scotland, and in June, 1695, they procured a statute from parliament, and afterwards a charter from the crown, for creating a trading company to Africa and the new world, with power to plant colonies and build forts, with consent of the inhabitants, in places not possessed by other European nations.

Paterson, finding the ground firm under him, boldly avowed his project, and opened a subscription for a company. The frenzy of the Scots to sign the solemn league and covenant, never exceeded the rapidity with which they ran to subscribe to the Darien Company. Nobility, the gentry, the merchants, the people, the royal burghs, without a single exception, and most of the other public bodies, subscribed. Young women threw their little treasures into the stock, and widows sold their treasures to raise money for the same purpose. In an instant the sum of £400,000 was subscribed in Scotland, although it is now known that at the time there was not above 100,000 of cash in the kingdom. In England, £300,000 was subscribed, and £200,000 by the Dutch and Hamburgers.

In the meantime, the jealousy of trade created an alarm in England, and in December, 1695, the two Houses of Parliament concurred in a joint address to the king against the punishment of the Darien Company. Soon after the Commons impeached several persons being instrumental in erecting the company. The king's answer to the address of Lords and Commons was, 'that he had been ill-advised in Scotland.' He soon afterwards sent his Scotch ministers, and sent orders to the English resident at Hamburg, to present a memorial to the Senate, in which he blamed the company, and warned them to cut all connexions with it. The senate presented the memorial to the assembly of ministers, who returned it with the following answer:—'We look upon it as a very strange thing that the King of Britain should wish to hinder us, who are a free people, to do with whom we please, but are amazed to think that he would hinder us from joining with our own subjects in Scotland, to whom he has lately given such large privileges by so many an act of parliament.'

The king's disavowal had the effect of intimidating the Dutch, Hamburg, and London merchants, and they withdrew their subscriptions.

The Scots, however, were not discouraged, and the company proceeded to equip six ships in Holland, and of from thirty to sixty guns. They also engaged 1200 men for the colony, among whom were many of the most noble and most ancient families of Scotland.

On the 26th of July, 1698, the whole city of Edinburgh poured down to Leith, to see the ships depart, amidst the tears, prayers, and wishes of their relatives, friends, and countrymen. Many seamen and soldiers whose names had been refused because more had been wanted than were needed, were hidden in the ships, and when ordered

ashore clung to the ropes and timbers, imploring to go without reward with their companions. Twelve hundred men sailed in five stout ships, and arrived at Darien in two months, with the loss of only fifteen of their people.

As most of them were inured to the fatigues and dangers of war, they might, if conquest had been their object, have gone from the most northern part of Mexico to the most southern part of Chili, and have overturned the whole empire of Spain in the South Seas; but theirs were the peaceful pursuits of commerce. They began with purchasing lands from the natives, and sending messages of amity to the Spanish governors within their reach. They fixed their station at Acta, calling it New St. Andrew, and giving to the country itself the name of New Caledonia. They erected a fort, and planted upon it fifty pieces of cannon.

The first public act of the colony was to publish a declaration of freedom of trade and religion to all nations. This noble idea originated with Paterson, whose enlightened views seemed destined for the good of nations, had they not been thwarted by the narrow and selfish policy of those who became jealous of them. The Dutch East India Company having pressed the king, in concurrence with his English subjects, to prevent the settlement at Darien, orders were sent from England to the Governors of the West Indies and the American colonies, to issue proclamations against giving assistance, or even to hold any correspondence with the colony; and these orders were carried into effect so rigidly that the Scots, trusting to kinder treatment, had not brought a sufficient supply of provisions with them; and they must have perished for want of food, had not the more generous savages, by hunting and fishing for them, afforded them that relief which fellow Britons refused. They lingered eight months, awaiting, but in vain, for assistance from Scotland; and almost the whole of the infant and adventurous colony either died or quitted the settlement. Paterson, who was the first that entered the ship at Leith, was the last who went on board at Darien.

In the meantime, Spain, which during the space of two years that this colony was in agitation, made no complaint against it, presented a memorial to the king through the Spanish ambassador at London, on the 3rd of May, 1696, complaining of the settlement as an encroachment on the rights of Spain.

The Scots, ignorant of the misfortunes of their colony, and provoked at this memorial, sent out another expedition of 1300 men to support an establishment which was now no more. One of the ships was lost at sea, many men died in the passage, and the rest arrived at different times, ruined in health, and dispirited when they heard the fate of those who preceded them. In addition to the misfortunes of the first colony, the second had a misfortune peculiar to itself, that of being fettered by the rigid and uncharitable observances of four ministers, sent by the General

Assembly of the Church of Scotland. These men exhausted the spirits of the people, by demanding extraordinary attentions to themselves, and at the same time requiring their attendance at sermon for four or five hours at a time, relieving each other by preaching alternately, but allowing no relief to their hearers.

The last party that joined the second colony at Darien, after it had been settled three months, was Captain Campbell of Finah, with a company of the people of his own estate, whom he had commanded in Flanders, and whom he carried to Darien in his own ship. On their arrival at New St. Andrew, they found that a Spanish force of 1600 men lay encamped at Tubucantee, waiting there till a Spanish squadron of eleven ships should arrive, when they were jointly to attack the fort. The command was given to Captain Campbell, who, in order to prevent a joint attack, marched the second day after his arrival with 200 men to Tubucantee, stormed the enemy's camp in the night time, dispersed the Spanish force with much slaughter, and returned to the fort the fifth day. He found the Spanish ships before the harbour, their troops landed, and almost all hopes of help or provision cut off; yet he stood a siege of six weeks, till nearly all the officers were dead; the enemy by their approaches, had cut off the wells, and his ammunition was expended, so that he was obliged to melt the pewter dishes of the garrison into balls. The garrison then capitulated, and obtained not only the common honours of war and security for the property of the company, but even exacted hostages for the performance of the conditions. Captain Campbell alone desired to be excepted from the capitulation, saying, he was sure the Spaniards could not forgive him the mischief which he had so lately done them.

The brave by their courage often escape that death which they seem to court. Captain Campbell made his escape in his own vessel to New York, and thence to Scotland, where the company presented him with a gold medal. A harder fate attended those who were left behind. They were so weak in their health as not to be able to weigh up the anchors of the *Rising Sun*, one of their ships, but the generous Spaniards assisted them; and when the vessel ran aground, they showed them other acts of kindness. The Darien ships being leaky and weakly manned, were obliged in their voyage to take shelter in different ports belonging to Spain and England. The Spaniards showed them kindness; the English none: and in one place belonging to the latter, one of their ships was seized and detained. Of these, only Captain Campbell's vessel and another small one were saved; the *Rising Sun* was lost on the bar of Charleston; and of the colony, not more than thirty, saved from war, shipwreck, famine, and disease, ever saw their country again.

Paterson stood the blow, as far as related to himself, with fortitude; but he could not stand the reflections excited by the misfortunes of those around him. On his passage home, after the ruin of the first colony, he be-

came deranged, but recovered in his own country, where his spirit, still ardent and unbroken, presented a new plan to the company, founded on the idea of King William, that England should have the joint dominion of the settlement with Scotland. He survived many years, pitied and respected, but totally neglected, and without the slightest reparation for his losses from the equivalent money given by England to the Darien Company.

Thus terminated one of the grandest projects that the human mind ever conceived. The application of the Dutch to King William against the Darien Company, affords the surest of all proofs that it was the interest of Britain to support it; and England, by sacrificing her own interest to the Dutch in ruining that settlement, lost the opportunity of gaining, and continuing to herself, the greatest commercial empire that probably ever will be formed in the world.

Excess of Speculation.

When the South American ports were opened to the trade of Great Britain, the most lamentable consequences ensued, from the ignorant manner in which the commerce was commenced, and the extravagance with which it was conducted. Owing to the incredible struggle or competition among the English merchants, who should send most ships and cargoes to a country whose civilized population, exclusive of slaves, did not exceed eight hundred thousand persons, it is natural to suppose that the market would be almost instantly overstocked. So great and so unexpected was the influx of English manufactures into Rio de Janeiro, within a few days of the arrival of the Prince of Portugal, that the rent of houses to put them in became uncommonly dear. The bay was covered with ships, and the custom-house soon overflowed with goods; even salt, casks of ironmongery and nails, salt fish, cheese, hats, bottled and barrelled porter, &c., were exposed not only to the sun and rain, but to general depredation. The creoles and strangers from the interior thought that these goods were placed there for their benefit, and praised the goodness and generosity of the English, who strewed the beach, to a great extent, with articles for which their own countrymen had heretofore charged them such high prices.

In the course of a few weeks the beach began to assume a much less crowded appearance; some of the goods were taken to the residences of the owners; others were removed, but to what place, or by whom, could not be ascertained; and a very great proportion were sold at the custom-house for the benefit of the underwriters. This stratagem so frequently practised, afterwards operated as a very serious injury to the regular sale of articles; for as the market was so overstocked, scarcely any one would offer money for goods, except at the custom-house sales. As the depreciation continued, numberless packages were then exposed to sale in part damaged, or apparently so. Indeed, little more than

the mark of a cord on the outside of a single article, or a corner discoloured in a package, was a sufficient pretext for pronouncing the whole damaged, and selling them for a mere trifle.

To the serious losses thus occasioned by an overstocked market, may be added another, which originated in the ignorance of many persons who sent articles, to a considerable amount, not at all suited to the country. One speculator, of wonderful foresight, sent large quantities of stays for the Brazilian females, who had never heard of such armour. Another sent skates for the use of a people who are totally uninformed that water can become ice; this was a favourite speculation, and the good people of Birmingham sent out sixty tons of skates and warming-pans. Another merchant sent out a considerable assortment of the most elegant coffin furniture, not knowing that coffins are never used by the Brazilians. In a few months, more Manchester goods arrived than had been consumed in the course of twenty years preceding.

Equally indiscreet and ill-judged were the speculations in Brazilian produce. Any kind of sebaceous matter was greedily purchased for tallow; and hides, eaten by the gnat, found a ready market. But the folly of speculation did not stop here; precious stones appeared to offer the most abundant source of riches, and they were largely dealt in; tourmalines were sold for emeralds, crystals for topazes, and both common stones and vitreous paste bought for diamonds, to a considerable amount. False diamonds were weighed with scrupulousness, and bought with avidity. Brass pans, purchased of the English, were filed and mixed with gold dust; and thus, by a very simple contrivance, several English dealers repurchased, at three or four guineas per ounce, the very article which they had before sold at half-a-crown per pound.

The Stock Exchange.

In London, which is the emporium of the wealth of the whole world, and which gives action to the industry and intelligence of all civilized nations, no ordinary commerce is carried on at the Stock Exchange; and, notwithstanding the apparent mystery in which its transactions are involved, it is nothing more nor less than a market-place. The articles there bought and sold consist of national pledges or pawns, bearing interest by way of annuity; and stock-brokers, or stock-jobbers, are the merchants who traffic in these articles, either on their own account, or by commission for other persons.

The national debt, the funds, or the stocks, for by all these names the article of traffic in the Stock Exchange is called, opened a new source of profit to the merchant or tradesman, who, when he had accumulated a sum of money, could lend the surplus of his capital to the state, and receive regular interest,

guaranteed to him by the public faith of his fellow-citizens.

In this manner did the establishment of national funds open a new market to capitalists, create a new field for speculation, and engender a new profession in the character of broker, or agent between the buyers and sellers of this species of property. As the amount of those funds increased, the number of proprietors of course multiplied, and the necessity of transfers became more frequent. These circumstances naturally drew together the parties interested, and a place of rendezvous for stock-holders and their agents was, without any design, established at Jonathan's, now Garraway's, Coffee House, in 'Change Alley, Cornhill. From this circumstance, the word 'alley' is to this day familiarly used as a cant phrase for the Stock Exchange. By degrees this coffee-house grew into an acknowledged market for settling the price of stocks. In process of time, however, this species of traffic attained such magnitude that the brokers erected, by subscription, a building for the exclusive purpose of their business, and denominated it the 'Stock Exchange.'

Eccentric Merchant.

At Hanau, a merchant resides, whose history is somewhat curious. A quarrel with his stepmother induced him to 'leave his father's house,' when young, and embark for England. Having acquired in trade, in London, a fortune sufficient for comfort in Germany, he married, and returned to his native town, where he found that his parents were dead, and that their property had devolved to him. A large rambling house, containing thirteen rooms on a floor, and adorned with pictures of old electors and landgraves, was a part of his patrimony. The house goes by the name of Noah's Ark, from the singularity of its construction, arising, as the story goes, from a cause not less singular. The upper story is a complete second house, erected on the first. The builder, an opulent citizen, who possessed ninety-nine houses in Hanau, was ambitious of rounding his number to one hundred; but the jealousy of the citizens opposed his whim, unless he consented to pave a path to the church, some hundred yards long, with rix dollars. He declined this exorbitant tax; but, unwilling to resign the distinction of owning one hundred houses, he contented himself with a hundredth placed on the top of one of the ninety-nine.

Anglo-Indian Merchant.

At Hyderabad, in the East Indies, there resides a famous English merchant, who holds a singular sort of durbar every morning, at which you may see shroffs and merchants, officers and nobles, coming to beg, borrow, lend, or transact business; all which is done according to the native customs. These Mr. P. observes in everything connected with his

establishment; even when alone, to the sitting on the floor to a dinner served in their fashion; reading the 'Arabian Nights' with his Moorish wives; presiding at nautes, and listening with pleasure to the musical sounds of the native tom-tom.

He is a man of uncommon talent and great information; very popular, both with the natives and with the British, for his liberality, ready and obliging politeness, and unbounded hospitality to all. The choice of an eastern mode of life is with him not altogether unnatural. He was born of a native mother, a female of Delhi, of good descent. He was sent to England when a boy for education; returned early to this country, and long commanded a large body of horse in the Deccan, under native chiefs.

Frankfort Fair.

The Michaelmas fair at Frankfort commences early in September; and its bustle and vivacity last throughout the month. The most considerable wholesale dealings are, however, transacted within the first week, when numbers of the merchants flock to the fair at Leipsic. The Exchange, a small neat quadrangle, surrounded by a range of warehouses and shops, called the *Braunfels*, is thronged during the fair with a respectable cluster of merchants of all nations; perhaps a twentieth part of the number who assemble daily on our exchange. High change is about twelve o'clock, from which the merchants return home to dinner; they generally commence business at six or seven in the morning, and toil till ten or eleven at night; not having, as yet, attained to that methodical celerity, which, in London, despatches a hundred times the amount of affairs between the commodious hours of nine and six. The large rooms in the *Braunfels* are fitted up as show-rooms and shops, in humble imitation of the *Palais-Royal*, and loaded with merchandise, showy and useful, from all quarters of Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Poland, and Bohemia. 'Thomson's fine cotton goods from Manchester'—'Picard, Marchand de Modes de Paris'—'Zwinger, Uhrmacher aus der Schweiz'; and other such announcements of the trades and domiciles of the traders, attract notice in glittering capitals. The fairs, which had naturally declined during the obstructions of war, are gradually resuming their former alacrity. Frankfort has, during the fair, the animated aspect of a bustling trading city. The inns, the theatre, the casino, are thronged and lively; the drives round the suburbs crowded with gay equipages; the *tables d'hôte* with a motley assemblage of persons of all ranks and nations; the flowing costume of the Turk, and the venerable bearded Jew, often meet the eye.

Roscoe.

'As I was once visiting the Athenæum of Liverpool,' says the elegant author of the

'Sketch Book,' 'my attention was attracted a person just entered the room. He was advanced in life, tall, and of a form that would once have been commanding, but it was a little bowed by time, perhaps by care. He had a noble style of countenance; a head that would have pleased a painter, and though some slight furrows upon his brow showed that wasting thought had been busy there, his eye still beamed with the fire of a prophetic soul. There was something in his whole appearance, that indicated a being of superior order from the bustling race around him. I inquired his name, and was informed that it was Roscoe. I drew back with an involuntary feeling of veneration. This, then, was an author of celebrity: this was one of those men whose voices have gone forth to the end of the earth, with whose mind we have communed even in the solitudes of America.

'Accustomed as we are in our native land to know European writers only by their works, we cannot conceive of them as other men, engrossed by trivial or sorrowful pursuits, and jostling with the crowd of common minds in the dusty paths of life. They pass before our imaginations like superior beings, radiant with the emanations of their own genius, and surrounded by a halo of literary glory.

'To find the elegant historian of the Republic, therefore, mingling among the busy streets of traffic, at first shocked my poetical ideas; but it is from the very circumstances of this situation in which he has been placed, that Mr. Roscoe derives his highest claim to admiration. It is interesting to notice how some minds seem almost to create themselves, springing up under every disadvantage, and working their solitary but irresistible way through a thousand obstacles. Nature seems to delight in disappointing the cherishing solicitudes of art, with which it would rear her favorite dulness to maturity, and to glorify in the luxuriance of her chance productions. She scatters the seeds of genius to the wind, and though some may perish among the stony places of the world, and some be choked by the thorns and brambles of adversity, yet others will now and then strike root even in the clefts of the rock; struggle bravely up into sunshine; and spread over their sterile birth-place all the beauties of vegetation.

'Such has been the case with Roscoe. Born in a situation apparently ungenial to the growth of literary talent, in the very narrow place of trade, without fortune, family, connexion, or patronage; self-sustained, almost self-taught; he has conquered every obstacle, achieved his way to eminence, having become one of the ornaments of his nation, has turned the whole force of his talents and influence to advance and embellish his native town.

'Indeed it is this last trait in his character which has given him interest in my eyes, and induced me particularly to point him out to my countrymen. Eminent as are his literary

crits, he is but one among the many distinguished authors of this intellectual nation. They, however, live but in general for their fame, or their own pleasures. Their private history presents no lessons to the world, or perhaps a humiliating one of human vanity and inconsistency. At best, they are prone to steal away from the bustle and common-place of busy existence, to indulge the selfishness of lettered ease, and revel in the scenes of mental but exclusive enjoyment.

Mr. Roscoe, on the contrary, has claimed none of the accorded privileges of talent. He has shut himself up in no garden of thought, no elysium of fancy, but has gone forth into the highways and thoroughfares of life; he has planted bowers by the wayside, for the refreshment of the pilgrim and the sojourner; he has established pure fountains, where the thirsting man may turn aside from the dust and heat of the day, and drink of the living streams of knowledge. There is a "daily duty in his eye," on which mankind may dilate and grow better. It exhibits no novelty and almost useless, because inimitable, examples of excellence; but presents a picture active, yet simple and imitable virtues, which are within every man's reach, but which few men exercise, or this world would be a paradise.

But his private life is peculiarly worthy the attention of the citizen of your young and fertile country, where literature and the elegant arts must grow up side by side with the other plants of daily necessity, and must contend for their culture, not upon the exclusive devotion of time and wealth, or the flattering rays of titled patronage, but upon the merits and seasons snatched from the pursuits of worldly interests, by intelligent and public-spirited individuals.

He has shown how much may be done in the hours of leisure by one master of his time for a place, and how completely it can be its own impress to surrounding objects. In his own Lorenzo de Medici, on whom he is said to have fixed his eye, as on a pure model of antiquity, he has woven the history of his life with the history of his own native land, and made the foundations of its fame monuments of its virtues. Wherever you go in Liverpool, you perceive traces of his steps in all that is elegant and liberal. Around the tide of wealth-flowing merely the channels of trade; he has diverted it into invigorating rills to refresh the garden of literature. By his own example and his exertions, he has brought into effect the union of commerce and the intellectual arts so eloquently recommended in one of his best writings, an address upon the opening of the Liverpool Institution, and has practically proved how beautifully they may be brought to harmonize and to benefit each other. The noble institutions for literary and scientific purposes, which reflect such credit upon Liverpool, and are giving such an impulse to the public mind, have been mostly originated, and all effectively promoted, by

Mr. Roscoe; and when we consider the rapid increasing opulence and magnitude of that town, which promises to vie in commercial importance with the metropolis, it will be perceived, that in awakening an ambition of mental improvement among its inhabitants, he has effected a great benefit to the cause of British literature.

In America, we only know Mr. Roscoe as the author; in Liverpool he is spoken of as the banker, and I was told of his being unfortunate in business. I could not pity him, as I heard some rich men do. I considered him far above the reach of my pity. Those who live only in the world, and for the world, may be cast down by the frowns of adversity, but a man like Roscoe is not to be overcome by the mutations of fortune. They do but drive him in upon the resources of his own mind, to the superior society of his own thoughts, which the best of men are apt sometimes to neglect, and to roam abroad in search of less worthy associates. He is independent of the world around him. He lives with antiquity and posterity; with antiquity in the sweet communion of studious retirement, and with posterity in the generous aspiring after future renown. The solitude of such a mind is the state of its highest enjoyment. It is then visited by those elevated meditations which are the proper aliment of noble minds, and are like manna sent from heaven to the wilderness of this world.

While my feelings were yet alive upon this subject, it was my fortune to light upon further traces of Mr. Roscoe. I was riding out with a gentleman to view the environs of Liverpool, when he turned off through a gate into some ornamental grounds. After riding a short distance, we came to a spacious mansion of freestone, built in the Grecian style. It was not in the purest taste, yet it had an air of elegance, and the situation was delightful. A fine lawn sloped away from it, studded with clumps of trees, so disposed as to break a soft fertile country into a variety of landscapes. The Mersey was seen winding a broad quiet sheet of water through an expanse of green meadow-land; while the Welsh mountains, blending with clouds, and melting into distance, bordered the horizon.

'This was Roscoe's favourite residence during the days of his prosperity. It had been the seat of elegant hospitality and retirement. The house was now silent and deserted.'

Fair of Senegaglia.

This fair used to be a common mart for the islands, and all the coasts of the Adriatic, Sicily, and a part of the Archipelago. The Albanians and Greeks brought light jackets, waistcoats, shirts, caps, babouches, or large puppets, wax, honey, &c. 'The Greeks,' says Gresley, in a very characteristic sketch of this annual assemblage, 'appear, by their air and countenance, as good people as one

would wish to deal with; every one lay dozing on the pavement, his body being a kind of fence to his little shop, and thus sold away without changing his situation. In all other dealers, the national air might be distinguished at first sight. The Lombard, the Swiss, and the Lyonesse, called to everyone that passed by to see what they liked, eagerly displayed all his shop, exacted beyond all reason, but very complaisantly thanked the least customer. The Hollander was wholly taken up with the best disposition of his shop, placing, brushing, and cleaning every piece. The Romanesque and Sicilian, leaning with his belly against his counter, with his hat thrust down to his eyes, and his hands across in the sleeves of the opposite arm, was ruminating on his accounts. The sullen and haughty Englishman showed what goods were asked of him, at the same time naming the price, and on any appearance of haggling, hastily put them up again, and took another turn in his shop.

‘On the third day of the fair,’ continues the same writer, ‘the Venetian commander of the gulf appeared off Senegaglia, in his proper ship, accompanied by some smaller galleys. Every year he makes this appearance, under pretence of protecting the fair; but rather to receive a settled fee paid him by the apostolic chamber, and which by Venice is looked on as an acknowledgment from the Pope of its sovereignty over the gulf.’ It was in a keen expostulation about this fee, that a Pope asking a Venetian ambassador where were the public’s vouchers for the sovereignty of the gulf? received this smart reply: ‘On the back of the same grant which gave your highness the keeping of the keys of St. Peter.’

Source of Luxury.

A Norwegian reproaching a Dutchman with luxury, ‘What is become,’ said he, ‘of those happy times, when a merchant on going from Amsterdam to the Indies, left a quarter of dried beef in his kitchen, and found it at his return? Where are your wooden spoons and iron forks? Is it not a shame for a sober Dutchman to lie in a damask bed?’ ‘Go to Batavia,’ answered the man of Amsterdam; ‘get ten tons of gold, as I have done, and see whether you will not want to be a little better clothed, fed, and lodged.’

Sir Simon Eyre.

Simon Eyre, originally a shoemaker in Lcadenall Street, hearing that a vessel laden with leather from Tripoli, was wrecked on the coast of Cornwall, conceived he might make great advantages by purchasing it. He accordingly collected as much money as his confined means would permit, and departed from London on foot to Penzance; where he bought the leather, returned to London, commenced dealer in that article, and soon

amassed a fortune sufficient to erect Leaden hall, obtained knighthood, filled the office of lord mayor, and founded a splendid ecclesiastical brotherhood.

Lloyd’s Coffee House.

One of the most important local objects in the commerce of this enterprising country and indeed of the globe itself, is Lloyd’s Coffee House, a name which it derived from the first person who kept it, and who little imagined that it would progressively acquire a celebrity as great in the annals of the commercial world, as that of any sovereign in the history of courts.

This establishment became many years since the resort of a very considerable body of English merchants, and other men of business, more particularly brokers and underwriters, who assembled to divide among themselves, and to be responsible to each other for the losses produced by ships either damaged, captured, burnt, or subjected to any other injury in the course of their different voyages.

The Coffee House is also a central point of political information, because the ministers, knowing its importance, select and appropriate this place as the medium of conveying the first intelligence of every national concern and the tidings, whether good or bad, flow from an original source to the public in general. Indeed it has now enjoyed this distinction so long, that whenever a rumour is in circulation, to say ‘We have it from Lloyd’s’ gives it a currency and sanction to which would not otherwise be entitled. In short, Lloyd’s Coffee House is now an empire within itself; an empire which in point of commerce, variety of powers, and almost incalculable resources, gives laws to the trading part of the universe; and if we combine this authority with the grand mart of business below it in the Royal Exchange, there is no place in the world can vie with this assembly of British merchants.

John Julius Angerstein, Esq.

Great Britain is in no inconsiderable degree indebted for her present wealth, prosperity, and grandeur, to the zeal, spirit, and enterprise of her merchants; and among the none stand more distinguished for all the qualities which can confer dignity and honour on commerce, than the gentleman to whom these *Anecdotes* are inscribed.

Mr. Angerstein, who is a native of Petersburg, came to England at an early age and soon became eminent as a broker and underwriter. In the last character, when his name appeared on a policy, it was a sufficient recommendation for the rest to follow which he led, without further examination; accordingly other underwriters were eager to see policies sanctioned by his subscription, which speedily acquired so great an authority, that

r some years after, by way of distinction, they were called *Julians*.

This commercial celebrity increased daily the circle of his connexions in trade: the might of his name, and the powers of his lively and ready mind, gradually expanded, till Mr. Angerstein attained that rank in commerce which is considered among the greatest distinctions of this envied island, and led, of the whole civilized world.

It is not, however, merely as a merchant that Mr. Angerstein should be considered; although England is his adopted country, he has espoused her interests with all the ardour of a native. He combines an ardent mind with a fine taste; and is one of the most liberal patrons of the fine arts that this country can boast.

To the highest degree of commercial integrity, Mr. Angerstein adds the purest and most extensive benevolence; and there is not a public charity in the metropolis, nor a national institution of any importance, that is not largely indebted to the princely munificence of JOHN JULIUS ANGERSTEIN, ESQ.

The Royal Exchange.

Parts for the assembling of merchants had long been known in the commercial towns of the Hanseatic League, under the name of

Bourses, before one was erected in England. This was in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and principally owed its origin to Sir Thomas Gresham, then an eminent merchant. The city having purchased houses to the amount of £4000, on the site of the projected building, Sir Thomas Gresham laid the first stone on June 7th, 1566, and erected it at the expense of about £6000. When it was finished, Queen Elizabeth proceeded from Somerset House, January 23rd, 1570, accompanied by a train of nobility and attendants, to Sir Thomas Gresham's magnificent mansion, where a sumptuous dinner was provided for the queen and her court. After they had dined, the whole party went to the new building; where every shop and every tenant were exhibited to the utmost advantage. After gratifying her curiosity, the queen commanded a herald to proclaim it the 'Royal Exchange,' by sound of trumpet.

The original Royal Exchange perished in the conflagration of the city in 1666; and the first stone of the present building was laid by Charles II., when a magnificent entertainment was prepared for him on the spot. The grasshopper, which surmounts the building, was adopted in honour of Sir Thomas Gresham. He was the son of a poor woman, who left him exposed in a field, but the chirping of grasshoppers leading a boy to the spot, his life was preserved, and hence he adopted the insect for his crest.



ANECDOTES OF FASHION.

'Which, like the image of the Sun himself,
Glories in coursing through the diverse signs
Which blazon in the zodiac of heaven.'—FERGUSSON.

Early Grecian Costume.

WHETHER we regard the Grecian attire of the head or of the body, it is precisely that of the earliest and rudest periods which exhibits in its arrangement the greatest degree of study, almost to foppishness. In those Grecian basso-relievos and statues, which either really are of very early workmanship, or which at least profess to imitate the style of work of the early ages (formerly mistaken for Etruscan), every lock of hair is divided into symmetrical curls or ringlets, and every fold of the garment into parallel plaits; and not only the internal evidence of those monuments themselves, but the concurring testimony of authors, shows that in those remote ages, heated irons were employed both to curl the hair and beard, and to plait the drapery. It was only in later times that the covering, as well of the head as the body, was left to assume a more easy and uncontrolled flow.

At first, as appears both from ancient sculpture and paintings, men and women alike wore their hair descending partly before and partly behind, in a number of long separate locks, either of a flat and zig-zagged, or of a round and corkscrew shape. A little later it grew the fashion to collect the whole of the hair hanging down the back, by means of a riband, into a single broad stream, and only to leave in front one, two, or three long narrow locks hanging down separately; and this is the head-dress which Minerva, a maiden affecting old fashions and formality, never seems to have quitted; and which Bacchus, though not originally quite so formal, thought proper to re-assume when on his return from amongst the philosophers of India, he chose himself to adopt the beard and mien of a sage. Later still, the queue depending down the back, was taken up, and doubled into a club; and the side locks only continued to reach in front, as low down as the breast. But these also gradually shrunk away into a greater number of small tufts or ringlets hanging down about the ears, and leaving the neck quite unconfined and bare. So neatly was the hair arranged in both sexes

round the forehead, and in the males round the chin, as sometimes to resemble the cells of a bee-hive; and at others, waves and meanders executed in wirework.

Greatly diversified were, among the Grecian females, the coverings of both extremities. Ladies reckoned among the ornaments of the head, the mitry or bushel-shaped crown, peculiarly affected by Ceres; the tiara, or crescent-formed diadem, worn by Juno and by Venus; and ribands, rows of beads, wreaths of flowers, nettings, fillets, skewers, and gewgaws innumerable.

The Roman Toga.

The most celebrated garment of the Romans, was the toga. It consisted of a semicircular robe without sleeves; enveloped the whole body; and leaving the right arm at liberty, was drawn over the left shoulder, of which it was gathered into a knot. The toga was formed of woollen cloth, the quality and size of which varied as size and circumstance directed. Horace represents a rich man as seriously admonishing one of more slender revenue, not to attempt to vie with him in the size of his robe; and he exclaims with indignation against an upstart who displayed his wealth in a toga of six ells.

The toga was worn in various folds over the arm and upon the breast, and the arrangement appears to have been an object of no common attention. Indeed, of such importance were these graces considered, that the learned Quintilian explains at considerable length the manner in which a barrister should display his robe, so as to increase the effect of his pleading; and the orator, Hortensius, when consul, made a public and serious complaint to the Judges, of his colleague in office for having pressed against him in a narrow passage, and deranged the folds of his dress.

The colour of the toga was generally plain white; but in some instances it varied in colour, and ornaments were added according to the rank of the wearer. Thus the toga worn by generals when they entered Rome

a triumph, was a tissue of purple and embossed gold, with an embroidery of palm leaves : and that used by the knights at their general review, in the ides of July, was of purple, striped with scarlet and white, which had formerly been the habit of the ancient kings.

The sacerdotal and magisterial toga was ordered with purple, and was called *toga prætexta* ; it was also worn by young persons of family, with the addition of a golden ball, the *bullæ aurea*, upon the breast, pendant from a collar. How it came to be bestowed on the young men, is differently related. Some fancy that Tarquinius Priscus, in a triumph for a victory over the Sabines, first bestowed his own son with the *prætexta* and the *bullæ aurea*, as a reward for his valour in slaying one of his enemies with his own hands. Others relate that the same Tarquin, among other wise institutions, took particular care in signing the proper habit to the boys, and accordingly ordained that the sons of nobles should make use of the *prætexta* and the *bullæ aurea*, provided their father had borne a curule office ; and that the rest should wear the *prætexta* only, as low as the sons of those who had served on horseback in the army the full time that the law required. A third party refer the origin of this custom to Romulus himself, as the consequence of a promise made to the Sabine virgins, that he would bestow a very considerable mark of honour on the first child that was born to any of them by a Roman father. Many believe, however, that the reason of giving them the *prætexta* and the *bullæ aurea* was that the former was shaped like a heart, might, as often as they looked on it, be no inconsiderable incitement to courage ; and that the purple of the *prætexta* might remind them of the modesty which became them at that age.

But on whatever account this custom took rise, it was constantly observed by all the sons of the freeborn. They took it at twelve years of age, and wore it for two years, when it was succeeded by the *toga virilis*, the institution of which was a ceremony of great solemnity as well as festivity. The friends and relatives of the youth being assembled on the occasion, he was stripped of the *toga prætexta*, and the *bullæ aurea* was consecrated to the Lares. He was then clothed in a toga of pure white, without ornament, and followed by the whole company, followed by his servants and retainers of his house, near connexions, to the capitol, where prayers and sacrifices were offered to the gods.

Thence he was taken with the same solemnity to the Forum, to make his public debut into the world on that spot where probably the most important scenes of his future life were to be acted. The day was concluded with a feast, to which the dependents of his family were admitted, and presents distributed among the guests.

During the early period of the republic, young men were not allowed to take the *toga virilis* until the completion of their seventeenth year ; but the indulgence of parents

afterwards relaxed this rule, and under the emperors it was frequently granted to boys of more tender age.

Every Roman citizen had a right to wear the toga ; it was nevertheless considered as a dress of ceremony, and in some measure as a mark of superiority ; and the lower classes seldom wore more than the tunic or underdress. It was also usual to throw it aside in the house, and it was rarely worn in the country ; but in the city, and in all public places, it would have been deemed indecorous in any one above the rank of a plebeian, to appear without it ; and in foreign countries it was worn as a distinction. Indeed, so much importance did the Romans attach to it, that exiles were deprived of the right to wear it during the term of their banishment. Germanicus having appeared without it in Egypt, was reprimanded by Tiberius for the neglect, as a want of respect to the customs of the country ; as Scipio Africanus had been by his fellow-citizens, for a similar omission at Syracuse.

Under the Roman emperors, the toga began to fall into disuse, notwithstanding the orders of Augustus and Adrian, that no citizen should be allowed to enter the circus, nor any senator or knight to appear abroad without it. Adrian even set the example himself, by constantly wearing it, even at table, although that was contrary to the established usage. But notwithstanding these efforts in favour of the ancient costume, the caprices of taste and fashion, aided by an extended intercourse with foreign nations, contributed afterwards to the introduction of various changes of dress, which entirely superseded the toga.

Roman Women.

Among the Romans, the women wore dresses of a kind of stuff so transparent that the body might be seen through it. This stuff was made of silk so extremely fine that it was dyed a purple colour before it was made up ; for when this species of gauze was manufactured, it was so delicate that it could not possibly have admitted the dye. The shell-fish which furnished the precious material for this colour, was found near the island of Cos, whence writers have denominated this stuff the dress of Cos. Varro named these habits 'dresses of glass.' They continued in vogue till the time of Jerome, who declaims loudly against them. We learn from Isaiah that the women and maidens of Jerusalem wore dresses of a similar nature.

Roman Lady's Toilet.

Although the ancient authors are generally very minute in their account of Roman manners, yet they have neither furnished us with an account of the interior arrangements of the ladies' dressing-rooms, nor such description of the separate part of their customary apparel, as to enable us to follow them through all the revolutions of fashion,

The same desire to please which actuates the modern belle, no doubt influenced the Roman beauty; for time and place make no other difference in a passion which has ever been the same, than in the manner of its display.

The Roman lady's dressing-table appears to have been provided with all its usual appendages, except that useful little modern instrument—the pin. But its inseparable ornament, the mirror, did not possess the advantage of being formed of glass, but of polished metal.

No other head-dress was worn than the hair variously arranged and ornamented, except, indeed, that at one time a cap in the form of a mitre was in fashion, but it soon fell into disuse. The most usual way was to plait the hair, and roll it as a bandeau round the head, on the crown of which it was fastened in a knot; and it became fashionable to raise these tresses so high that they were heaped upon each other, until they were reared into a kind of edifice of many stages, where

‘With curls on curls, like different stories rise,

Her towering locks, a structure to the skies.’

The fashion of wearing false hair was not unknown to the Roman ladies, who went so far as to improve the mode into a wig, which was at one time dressed in imitation of a military casque. The curls were confined with small chains or rings of gold, and bodkins studded with precious stones. Fillets of purple or white riband, ornamented with pearls, were also worn on the head, and splendid jewels in the ears. There were some decorations for the head which were considered peculiarly indicative of female decorum; such as a plain broad riband, with which some matrons tressed their hair; others appertained exclusively to particular families; but it is probable that these distinctions were soon lost, or confounded in the maze of fashion.

The Roman ladies were extremely careful of their teeth and their eyes. Art had not, indeed, then arrived at the perfection of supplying the absolute deficiency of an eye; but means were not wanting to increase their lustre, and to make those which were small or sunk appear larger and more prominent than they really were. This was effected by burning the powder of antimony, the vapour of which being allowed to ascend to the eyes, had the effect of distending the eyelids; or the powder, and sometimes, indeed, common soot, was gently spread with a bodkin underneath the lid, and the tint which it imparted was supposed to give an expression of liquid softness to the eye. Pencilling the eyebrows was a constant practice; nor was there any ignorance of the effect produced by a skilfully disposed patch, or of any other of the numerous arcana by which the charms of the person are heightened and displayed.

It has been doubted whether the Roman ladies did actually employ the ‘artillery of patches.’ But not only are they repeatedly

mentioned in ‘Martial’s Epigrams,’ but the younger Pliny tells us that even a grave lawyer had recourse to their aid, and that according as he was to plead for plaintiff or defendant, he used to wear a white or a black patch, over the right or the left eye!

The Progress of Fashion in England.

On Cæsar’s arrival in Britain, he found the natives of the southern part of the island attired with skins, which, as civilization extended, gave way to the Roman habit. The Saxons, on their first arrival here, wore long jackets. The English costume soon became that of loose and large white garments, with broad guards [or borders] of various colours like the Lombards; and a short time before the conquest, they wore coats to the mid-knee, head shorn, beard shaved, face painted, and arms laden with bracelets.

The Anglo-Saxon ladies wore a stay, a bodice, a kind of mantle thrown over the head and shoulders, and a light petticoat reaching somewhat lower than the calf of the leg. The dress of the ankles and feet consisted of dressed skin, open before, and crossed with kind of lacing, somewhat in imitation of the Roman buskin; and this mode was followed indifferently by both sexes.

In the reign of Alfred, when commerce had extended the arts and sciences, and opened a communication with the rest of the world, men began to grow rich, and the ladies studied costume. The uniformity of dress which had formerly pervaded all ranks, no longer existed; but richness of apparel distinguished the great from the little, and a kind of contention for elegance, as well as splendour, continued until the time of the Normans.

From the Norman conquest to the commencement of the seventeenth century, the dress of the ladies continued with little variation, in the system of contending who should look best. Shape was studied with peculiar attention, and distinctly shown at the waist and arms, to which the gowns were fitted with the most scrupulous exactness; something in the manner of the riding dresses worn at this day. A ruff ornamented the neck, and a solitary pearl necklace being pendant under the ruff, was visible on the breast. The head was ornamented with a black coil, the hair turned up in front; and a steeple hair finished the pyramid.

This dress, with very little alteration, was handed from mother to daughter until the Restoration, notwithstanding both Rubens and Vandyke have given another kind of dress to their portraits. There is, however, strong reason to believe, that these inimitable artists endeavoured rather to represent the ladies in what they ought to wear, than in what was the actual fashion of the day, since contemporary painters represent the women of that age in the dress we have described.

To Vandyke’s drapery much praise is due

and there is a certain grace and propriety what he drew, which, with the omission of the ruff round the neck, exhibited the lady to considerable advantage. The idea that Vandyke had thus suggested, struck the ladies at the Restoration in so forcible a manner, that the ladies of fashion made that painter's dress their model, by imitating all that was elegant in his drapery. Had they stopped there, it would have been well; but our Restoration females added a kind of libertinism to Vandyke, which, at length, degenerated into indecency, and thus kept pace with the enthusiasm of the other sex. As one extreme generally begets another, so from a dress that exposed the person too much, they passed, by a sudden transition, to one which enveloped them from head to foot in close.

These changes were followed by a sort of Commonwealth in dress: when Vandyke went out of fashion, and there being no new mode to go by, every lady dressed as she pleased, until the glorious Revolution, when

Parisian ladies undertook to set the mode to the English females. In doing this, they went to great lengths indeed: for they not only elevated their heads by an artificial dress of extraordinary height, but they stepped into shoes, the heels of which raised them, at least, six inches from the natural position of the feet. Thus, with the stilts *below*, and the shoes *above*, they grew, all on a sudden, to five feet, to the highest grenadier altitude of six feet and a half. Advices of this kind, coming to London, by way of Holland, the *fashionable ladies* sounded to arms, and in a few months, became more than a match for the stunts. In this state of hostility, they continued raising castles on their heads, till they put an end to the contest; when, by mutual consent, they shrunk on both sides, to their natural stature.

From this time there was no further combat about fashion, until the war broke out in the reign of Queen Anne, when the sprightly ladies again set their wits to work, and with their art invented that wonderful machine, the hoop petticoat. It will scarcely at this time be credited, that this enormous hoop measured seven yards in circumference. This was sent over by a smuggler to Sussex, with intent to have it seized, that the pattern might become general; and it happened accordingly. In this scheme, it is said, the English ladies had a double object. Having compared their own warm climate, and still milder constitution, with that of Great Britain and its ladies, and finding how much warmer to the sun they were than their neighbours, they naturally enough concluded that the hoop, which would only be pleasingly warm to them, must certainly give the English ladies the rheumatism: besides, they had been informed that English females were not so delicately formed as themselves, and therefore must feel considerable reluctance in wearing such an article of dress.

The French ladies, however, did not gain any point in the plan, for the British ladies

soon became accustomed to this machine, and though a few colds at first were caught, yet in the process of time they could bear the weather as well as their enemies. Nay, they improved upon the invention, and added two yards more to the seven, so that the hoop was now nine yards in rotundity. This, with the Duke of Marlborough's victory over the French, so disheartened the Gallic beauties, that they dropped all contest about the hoop, and left our English fair in complete possession of it; and they wore it in triumph until it outlasted the colours in Westminster Hall, and nearly outlived that general's glory; nay, on court-days, in our own times, there have been seen the relics of this fashion covering the windows of the state-chair in the streets, and sweeping the drawing-room at St. James's.

During this war there were other matters that kept up the female contention, particularly the head-dress, and white and red paint, in which the French had the advantage, until the peace of Utrecht brought with it a cessation of fashionable hostility, and a seeming tranquil state of dress continued for many years.

The gay restless Gauls at length began to exercise their ingenuity, and produced the *robe de chambre*, which afterwards in England was called a sack. A pattern of this was sent to England, and at the same time a present of a very handsome one to a lady in court, together with a new French head-dress, which almost enveloped the face, and totally obscuring the neat plain dress then in fashion, made the British ladies, in a few months, as ridiculous as those in France.

The French friars now began to exclaim against those whims and fancies, and they exposed the true cause of the sack; upon which a conference was held, which ended in the ladies consenting to the external appearance of some holy order; and so the particular order of a certain degree of Friars was worn, under the appellation of a Capuchin, which is worn to this day in both countries, although it has now changed its name to that of a cloak. This whim was found very convenient in England, when intriguing was more secretly carried on than it is at present, as a hood hanging behind served as a receptacle for *billet-doux*, which being put in behind, saved the lady a blush in receiving, and the gentleman a rebuke for presenting.

The next fashion which we adopted from France, was an invention to hide personal deformities of the back. It was called a *negligée*, and was universally worn in England, until the practice of swathing children, like Egyptian mummies, and tight lacing their tender bodies, was banished.

The head-dresses, for half a century of this time, were eternally varying, being sometimes enormously large, and at others as diminutively small. A mountain to-day, a molehill to-morrow, eternally on the extreme; excepting when the hair hung in flowery ringlets, very unbecoming to the face.

The next remarkable imitation we made of French fashions, was treble ruffles, a kind of ornament to the elbow, that had nothing to recommend them but the richness of the lace, which was a staple commodity in France, and what they knew on this account would be smuggled in large quantities to England. These, however, are now no more; and the arm, untrammelled from its cumbersome appendage, may now be sported to advantage.

During the reigns of George the Second and his late majesty, up to the present day, variety seems to have been the grand object both in France and England; and although in too many instances some ridiculous excesses have been indulged, yet owing to the advancement of literature, which has urged men of wit and humour to ridicule the absurdity of dress, and write down all that was inelegant, great improvement has taken place, until female costume has attained a chasteness and elegance unknown to former ages.

The Hair.

As a tree without leaves, or a field without grass, saith Ovid, so is a head without hair. Apuleius thought it so great and necessary an ornament, that no beauty of face can possibly compensate for the absence of it: were Venus herself bald, says he, even her own Vulcan would turn from her in disgust. A fine head of hair is doubtless one of the most essential attributes, whether of beauty or of agreeableness; and we have a proof in the universal attention which mankind have paid to it, that our notions of its influence are founded in nature. The Japanese, who are in so many things divided from all the rest of the world, are, we believe, the only people with whom baldness is considered as a beauty. They pluck out the hairs from every part of the head, except a small spot on the back, where it is allowed to grow to a great length, and then is plaited and tied up. This cherished remnant is regarded with such reverence, that to touch it is one of the greatest indignities which can be offered to a Japanese.

It is not all hair, however, which is in equal esteem; nor are mankind more agreed in the necessity of having it of some sort or other, than they are divided in opinion as to the most becoming in respect of colour and shape.

Among the Romans, fair hair was the most esteemed, and both men and women used to stain it with a flaxen dye. Various essences were used to perfume and give it lustre, and sometimes it was powdered with gold dust, to render it still more resplendent. This latter mode was adopted from Asia. Josephus says, that it was practised by the Jews; some of the emperors followed it; and the hair of Commodus is said to have become so fair and bright by its constant use, that when the sun shone upon it, his head appeared as if on fire. In Spain, also, a golden yellow was long in such vogue, that ladies who were not

blessed with hair of this colour, would perfume it with sulphur, steep it in aquaforti and expose it to the sun in the hottest time of the day, in order to acquire the aurea tinge: while in Peru, a Spanish colony, jet black was looked upon as the perfection of colour, and the ladies used to go through processes equally painful and difficult to attain it. In the shape of the hair, the varieties of fashion have been quite endless, being more within our control than the colour: it has been a subject of the most arbitrary and capricious interference. Gregory of Tours states that in the royal family of France, jet black was a long time the peculiar mark and privilege of kings and princes of the blood, and they wear long hair artfully dressed and curled, every other person was obliged to be polled or cut round, in sign of inferiority or obedience. Some writers assure us, that there were different modes for all the different qualities or conditions, from the prince, who wore it full length, to the slave or villain, who wore it cropped quite close.

Under the first race of the French kings, to cut off the hair of a son of France, was to declare him excluded from the right of succeeding to the crown, and reduced to the condition of a subject. Hence the memorable conduct of Clotilda, who chose rather to allow the heads of her younger sons to be cut off, than that they should have their hair shaven; preferring that they should suffer death, rather than live to dishonour.

Before the eleventh century, the wearing of the hair long, had ceased to be the peculiar privilege of royalty. It then became a very general custom for men to wear long hair, and this being contrary to the precept of St. Paul, was strongly opposed by the bishop of Rouen, the Archbishop of Rouen, in a council in 1096, ordered all that wore long hair to be shut out of the church during life, and not to be prayed for after death. In 1104, Bishop Serlon preached at Charenton before Henry I. against long and curled hair; and the king and all his courtiers were so much affected with his exhortations, that they consented to resign their flowing ringlets of which they had before been so vain. The prudent prelate gave them no time to change their minds, but immediately pulled a pair of shears out of his sleeve, and performed the operation with his own hand. Another incident happened about twenty-five years after, which gave a temporary check to the prevailing fondness for long hair. It is thus related by a contemporary historian. 'An event happened in the year 1129, which seemed very wonderful to our young gallants; who, forgetting that they were men, had transformed themselves into women, by the length of their hair. A certain knight, who was very proud of his long luxuriant hair, dreamed that a person suffocated him with his curls. As soon as he awoke from his sleep, he cut his hair to a decent length. The report of this spread over all England, and almost all the knights reduced their hair to the proper standard. But this reformation was not of long continu-

ce; for in less than a year, all who wished appear fashionable, returned to their mer wickedness, and contended with the lies in the length of their hair. Those to whom nature had denied that ornament, supplied the defect by art.'

The Beard.

The Romans originally wore their beards long; and a bearded man, in a proverbial sense, meant a man venerable for his age and wisdom. The first among the Romans who ventured on the bold experiment of shaving his beard, was Scipio Africanus. The novelty used, and smooth chins soon became the vernal fashion; servants and slaves only, were forbidden to shave themselves, and thus the beard, once a mark of honour, became degraded into a badge of servitude. From this state of disgrace it was not redeemed till the reign of the Emperor Adrian, whose chin being disfigured by some natural scars, he was content to let his beard grow, in order to conceal them: and thus, by his example, again brought beards into fashion among the Romans.

The ancient Germans also wore their beards long. The Lombards, or *Longobards*, are supposed by some to have derived their name from the peculiar length of theirs. The Emperor Otho had a famous one, by which he used to swear on all solemn occasions.

The beard was formerly esteemed in France a badge of liberty, and the people were not so proud of wearing it long, and of curling it to render it ornamental. The monks and friars, who affected to despise the trifling vanities of the world, took it in their heads to be without their beards. The then Bishop of Paris, being extremely offended with the laity for not following so good an example, began to preach against beards in the pulpit, and by degrees worked himself up to so high a pitch of position, that he excommunicated all of his diocese who would not consent to be shaved. The bigots, in consequence of this procedure, soon permitted themselves to be named; but the more worldly-minded, accustomed to join the idea of privilege to that of liberty, conceiving their liberties and rights at stake, went to loggerheads like patriots, and had their brains beat out in defence of the hairs on their chins. The custom at last grew so general, and so much was threatened by it, that Louis VII. submitted himself under the necessity of taking counsel with the clergy, and to have his own beard taken off, to bring smooth chins into vogue, in order to overcome the prejudices of the populace.

Beards afterwards grew so much in vogue, that all promoted to the magistracy were obliged to shave. In 1536, Francis I. could not be admitted into parliament unless he engaged to cut off his long beard; several magistrates of a lower class kept their beards; the last was M. Rich Mithow, bailiff of the town of Eu, who died in 1626.

After beards had been thus proscribed for about a century, Francis I. happening to amuse himself with his courtiers one day in winter, was struck on the chin with a piece of a tile, which chanced to be taken up in a snow ball. As the wounded part could not be shaved, he let his beard grow; and thus beards came again into fashion, from a cause exactly similar to that which restored them among the Romans during the reign of Adrian.

When Louis XIII. succeeded Henry IV. at the age of nine years, the courtiers, because the new king *could* have no beard, resolved that they *would* have none themselves; and every wrinkled face appeared as beardless as possible, reserving only whiskers, and a small tuft of hair beneath the under lip. The honest Duke de Sully was the only courtier who was hardy enough to appear in the royal presence with his beard in the form of the preceding reign. The young crop-bearded courtiers laughed at the sight of his grave look, and old-fashioned appearance. The duke, nettled at the affront put on his fine beard, said to the king, 'Sire, when your father, of glorious memory, did me the honour to consult me on his great and important affairs, the first thing he did was to send away all the buffoons and stage dancers of his court.'

This system of cropping, we are told, was carried by the courtiers even to the inferior animals, which occasioned the Marechal Bassompierre, who had been imprisoned the twelve last years of the reign of Henry IV., to observe, on coming to court again, that he saw no change in the world, since he had been secluded from it, but that *men* had lost their *beards*, and *horses* their *tails*.

Tax on Beards.

The growth of beards was regulated by statute at Lincoln's Inn, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, when 'It was ordered that no fellow of that house should wear a beard of above a fortnight's growth.' Transgression was punished with fine, loss of commons, and finally expulsion; but fashion prevailed, and in the following year all previous orders respecting beards were repealed.

The favourite custom or fashion of a nation can never be altered without incurring displeasure; and no act of the reign of Peter the Great was so obnoxious as the tax he laid upon beards. This monarch ordained that the noblemen, gentlemen, tradesmen, and artisans (the priests and peasants excepted), should pay a hundred roubles to be able to retain their beards; that the lower classes should pay one copeck for the same liberty; and he established clerks at the different gates to collect these duties. Such a new and singular impost disturbed the vast empire of Russia. Both religion and manners, as well as fashion, were thought in danger. Complaints were heard from all parts; and they even went so far as to write libels against the

sovereign. But, notwithstanding this, the decree against beards was rigidly put in force, and the most unlawful violence was publicly committed; the razor and the scissors were everywhere made use of. A great number, to avoid more cruel extremities, obeyed with reluctant sighs. Some of them carefully preserved the sad trimmings of their chins; and in order never to be separated from these favourite locks, ordered that they should be placed with them in their coffins.

Whiskers.

Among the European nations that have been most curious in whiskers, Spain holds the first rank; and the Spaniards have often made the loss of honour consist in that of their whiskers. The Portuguese were not the least behind them in this respect. In the reign of Catherine, Queen of Portugal, the brave John de Castro had just taken in India the castle of Diu; victorious, but in want of everything, he found himself obliged to ask the inhabitants of Goa to lend him a thousand pistoles for the maintenance of his fleet; and as a security for that sum he sent them one of his whiskers, telling them, 'All the gold in the world cannot equal the value of this natural ornament of my valour; and I deposit it in your hands as a security for the money.' The whole town was affected with this singular trait of heroism, and everyone interested himself about this invaluable whisker; even the women were desirous to testify their respect for so brave a man; several sold their bracelets to increase the sum asked for; and the inhabitants of Goa sent him immediately both the money and his whisker.

In the reign of Louis XIII. of France, whiskers attained the highest degree of favour at the expense of the expiring beards. In those days of gallantry, they became the favourite occupation of lovers; a fine black whisker, elegantly turned up, was a very powerful mark of dignity with the fair sex. Whiskers continued in fashion during the early part of the reign of Louis XIV. This king, and all the great men of his reign, took a pride in wearing them; and they were the ornament of Turenne, Colbert, Condé, Corneille, Molière, &c. It was then no uncommon thing for a favourite lover to have his whiskers turned up, combed, and pomatumed by his mistress; and for this purpose, a man of fashion took care to be always provided with every little necessary article, especially whisker wax. It seems the levity of the French made whiskers undergo several changes, both in form and name; there were Spanish, Turkish, guard dogger whiskers; in short, royal ones, which were the last worn, their smallness proclaiming their approaching fall.

It is not well known, that there was a severe law in China, against plucking, removing, or transporting the whiskers of Confucius, that idol of Chinese philosophers; and

that beheading was the punishment of those caught in the attempt.

Confucius's incomparable whiskers were said to impart the knowledge, while they conferred the manly beauty, of the illustrious sage upon the wearer. After this proof of the antiquity and influence of whiskers, is it surprising that the weak should wear them, that they may look strong; the old, that they may look young; the cowardly, that they may look brave; and the ugly, that they may look beautiful?

Wigs.

Wigs were invented about the time of the first Roman Emperors. Baldness was then considered a deformity, and we are told that Otho had a kind of scalp of fine leather, with locks of hair upon it, so well arranged, as to appear natural; yet Domitian, who reigned some years after him, did not find means to hide his want of hair, though so mortified by it, that he could not bear to hear the subject of baldness mentioned.

The Chevalier Folard asserts, in his notes on Polybius, that wigs were in use before the time of Hannibal; and he cites a passage from that author, not only to prove that Hannibal wore one himself, but to infer from the manner in which the fact is related, that it was not then introduced into Rome until a period already mentioned. It is, indeed, pretty evident, that wigs were unknown the time of Julius Cæsar; for it is well understood that he valued his crown of laurels more as a covering for his baldness, than for the honour it conferred; and it may fairly be presumed, that if wigs had been generally worn he would not have neglected so easy a method of covering his baldness.

Caps.

The cap is generally the emblem of liberty and was given to the Roman slaves in the ceremony of emancipating them, whence the proverb, *Vocare servos ad pileum*. It was, however, sometimes used as a mark of infamy. In Italy, the Jews are distinguished by a yellow cap; at Lucca, by an orange-coloured one. In France, those who had been bankrupts, were obliged ever after to wear a green cap, to prevent people from being imposed upon in any future commerce. By several decrees in 1584, 1622, 1628, 1688, it was ordained, that if they were at any time found without the green cap, their protection should be null, and their creditors empowered to cast them into prison. A similar law prevailed at one time in Scotland; bankrupts were obliged to wear a coat of many or 'dyvours colours.'

The Chinese have not the use of the hat itself, but they wear a cap of a peculiar structure, which the laws of civility will not allow them to put off; it is different for the different seasons of the year. That used in summer is the form of a cone, ending at the top in a

siat. It is made of a very beautiful kind of at, much valued in that country, and lined ith satin; to this is added at the top, a large ck of red silk, which falls all round as low he bottom; so that in walking, the silk regularly fluctuating on all sides, makes a aceful appearance. In winter they wear a ish cap, bordered with martlets' or foxes' in; but in the ornaments, it resembles the mmer caps.

Hats.

Hats are said to have been first used about year 1400, at which time they became of : for country wear, riding, &c. Father niel relates, that when Charles II. made public entry into Rouen, in 1449, he had a hat lined with red velvet, and surmounted with a plume or tuft of feathers: he ls, that it is from this entry, or at least ler this reign, that the use of hats and caps o be dated, which henceforward began to e place of the chaperoons and hoods that een worn before. In process of time, n the laity, the clergy also took this part he habit; but it was looked on as a great se, and several regulations were published idding any priest or religious person to ear abroad in a hat without coronets, and oining them to keep the use of the chapeis made of black cloth, with decent coro; if they were poor, they were at least o coronets fastened to their hats, and this a penalty of suspension and excommuni-on.

ne use of hats is, however, said to have of a longer standard among the eccleics of Brittany, by two hundred years, especially among the canons; but these o other than a kind of caps, and from e arose the square caps worn in colleges, Lobineau observed, that a Bishop of Dol, ie 12th century, zealous for good order, ved the canons alone to wear such hats; nning, that if any other person came with to church, divine service should imately be suspended.

pe Innocent IV. first made the hat the ol or cognizance of the cardinals, ening them to wear a red hat at the cerees and processions, in token of their ; ready to spill their blood for Jesus t.

Spanish Antiques.

the good old times of Spain, few things more admired, than the skill displayed e ladies in the adornment of their heads. of them wore necklaces made of steel, ich thin rods of iron were fastened before ehind, and curved upwards at the end. : were used to expand the veil, which own over the head. Others decorated ead with an assemblage of semi-circular ents, which hung down to the ears or oulders, gradually diminishing in size. highest pitch of coquetry consisted in a

very large and highly polished forehead. In order to have this mark of beauty in perfecion, they shaved the head immediately above the forehead, and afterwards spared no pains to render the skin as smooth as possible. The head-dress of these ladies with the large forehead, was equally singular. It was a kind of cap, a foot high, stuck on the hair, dressed in the form of a toupee, which was covered with a black veil. Similar head-dresses were seen in France under the reign of Louis XV.; and we find traces of them, at present, in some of the Spanish provinces.

Short and Long Doublets.

In the reign of Henry IV., an Act was passed, forbidding all, except the nobility, to wear short doublets; but no sooner were these proscribed, than long cloaks became the fashion, and their use by the commonalty grew at length as obnoxious to our ancestors of rank, as the short doublets had ever been.

'The commons,' says the *Eulogium*, 'were besotted in excess of apparel; going some in wide surcoats, reaching to their loyns; some in a garment reaching to their heels, close before, and strutting out on both sides; so that on the back, they make men seem women, and this they call by a ridiculous name gown,' &c.

English and Scots.

The monk of Malmesbury, in his *Life of Edward the Second*, complains that such was the pride of dress, that the squire endeavoured to outshine the knight in the richness of his apparel; the knight the baron, the baron the earl, and the earl the king himself. This vanity became general among the people of every class at the commencement of the following reign, which gave occasion to the Scots, who Dr. Henry says could not afford to be such egregious fops as the English, to make the following well known lines:

'Long beirds hertiless,
Peynted whoods witless,
Gay cotes graceless,
Maketh England thiteless.'

Kilt and Trews.

In days when our King Robert rang,
His *trews* they cost but half-a-crown;
He said they were a groat ou'r dear,
And ca'd the taylor thief and loon.'

OLD SONG.

Although the kilt is now a part of dress peculiar to the Highlanders of Scotland, it is abundantly evident from the testimonies of many ancient authors, that the Britons and other Celtic nations originally wore close trews or trowsers. In fact, the leaving of the knees bare was a Roman rather than a Celtic fashion. Gibbon relates that Tetricus, who

had been declared Emperor in Gaul, when led in triumph by Aurelian, was clad in Gallic trowsers; and he remarks in a note, that the use of *bracche*, breeches or trowsers, was still considered as a Gallic and barbarian fashion. The Romans, however, had made some advances towards it. To encircle the legs and thighs with *fascie* or bands, was a practice in the time of Pompey and Horace; but it was generally regarded as a mark of weakness and effeminacy, in the same manner as the use of stays by the male sex is deemed in our own days. In process of time, however, and as luxury increased among the Romans, their pride in bare knees vanished, and close trowsers became the general costume.

How the trews came to be superseded in the Scottish Highlands by the kilt, has never clearly appeared; though such a sort of retrogression in dress can scarcely be supposed to have taken place, except from some cause more than usually remarkable. It is certain, that until the end of the seventeenth century the trews was the dress of all people of condition and respectability in the Highlands, as well as in the Lowlands of Scotland. Even as late as just before the abolition of the heritable jurisdictions, when the first Duke of Athol held a court at Logierait, his Grace was dressed in a blue bonnet, short coat, and *trews*. It was commonly made of the kind of chequered stuff called tartan, though sometimes of a stuff of one colour only. It completely supplied the place of breeches and stockings, covering the feet, legs, and thighs, and was more especially worn by persons on horseback, often without boots. As a winter dress it must have been infinitely preferable to the kilt.

When the wearing of the Highland dress was prohibited by Act 19 George II. c. 39, after the rebellion of 1745, the trews were included among the other articles enumerated as peculiarly belonging to the Highland garb; and is also mentioned in the Act 22 Geo. III. c. 63, by which that prohibition was repealed.

Piked Shoes.

Amongst the many capricious shapes which fashion has assumed in Great Britain, few, perhaps, are more remarkable than the piked shoes worn in the 15th century. These were not, however, indigenous to this soil, but an offspring of the fantastic imaginations of the French. It was from those whom their arms vanquished, that the English imported most of their luxuries and follies. Aubanus, in his 'Manners, Laws, and Customs of all Nations,' speaking of the French, says, 'Their fashion in their apparel and shoes be much altered in our age; for (saith Subellius) when I was a boy, all the courtiers and gentlemen of France (the clergy only excepted) wore short cloaks with sleeves, that would hardly reach to their mid-thighs, pleated from the top to the bottom, and stuffed or quilted about the shoulders. Their shoes were tipped on the snouts

with thin hornes half a foot long, such as are pictured in arras and tapestrie; and their bonnets, which they called *biretta*, were high and sharpe towards the crowne; but all these auncient fashions be now laid away, and new fangles invented, for the shoes they now wear be broad nosed (like a bear's foot), and narrow heeled; and their garments be much more loose and long than before.'

It was not long before the fashion of wearing piked shoes became prevalent in England. It continued in vogue from the year 1382, for nearly a century; and was at length carried to so ridiculous and extravagant a pitch as to provoke the interference of the legislature; for the pikes of shoes and boots were of such a length, says Baker, in his Chronicles, 'that they were faine to be tied to the knees with chains of silver and gilt, or at least with silken laces.' By the statute 3 Edw. IV. c. 5 (1463), it is declared that, notwithstanding the statutes then in being, 'the Commons of the realm did daily wear excessive and inordinate array and apparel, to the great displeasure of God, and impoverishing of this realm of England, and to the enriching of other strange realms and countries to the final destruction of the husbandry of the said realm;' and it is therefore, among other provisions, enacted, 'that no knight, under the state of a lord, esquire, gentleman, or other person, should use or wear any shoes or boots having pike passing the length of two inches, upon pain of forfeiting to the king, for every default, three shillings and fourpence.'

The rage for piked shoes does not, however, seem to have been in the least suppressed by this Act; for in two years after Edward IV. was obliged to issue a proclamation forbidding the use of pikes of shoes exceeding the length of two inches under pain of cursing by the clergy, and forfeiting twenty shillings, to be paid one noble to the king, another to the cordwainers of London, and the third to the Chamber of London.

The people appear to have been intimidated by the severe penalties imposed by this proclamation, for of high piked shoes we hear no more after this period; nay, so much did the fashion run into a contrary extreme, that in the reign of King Henry the Fifth, as Fuller informs us, 'it was faine to be ordered by proclamation that none *should wear their shoes broader at the toes than six inches!*'

Boots.

Boots are said to have been invented by the Carians. They were at first made of leather, afterwards of brass or iron, and were proof against both cuts and thrusts. It was from this that Homer calls the Greeks *brazed* booted. The boot only covered half the leg, some say the right leg, which was more advanced than the left, it being advanced forwards in an attack with the sword; but in reality it appears to have been used on either leg, and sometimes on both. Those who fought with darts or other missile weapons

ranced the left leg foremost; so that in all cases, this only was booted.

Boots were much used by the ancients, either for riding on horseback or walking. The boot was called by the ancient Romans, *caliga*; by the writers of the middle ages, *gamba*, *gamberia*, *bainberga*, *bemberga*, or *burga*.

The Chinese have a kind of boots made of silk or fine stuff, lined with cotton, a full inch thick, which they always wear at home. These boots are always booted; and when a visitor came to them, if they happen to be without their boots, their guest must wait till they put them on. They never stir out of doors without their boots on; and their scrupulousness in this respect is the more remarkable, as they are always carried in chairs.

Pins.

Pins were brought from France in 1543, and were first used in England by Catharine of Navarre, Queen of Henry the Eighth. Before the invention, both sexes used ribands and laces, with points and tags, hooks and eyes, skewers of brass, silver, and gold.

In the year 1543, it was enacted 'that no man shall put to sale any pinnes, but only such as shall be double-headed, and have the heads soldered fast to the shank of the pinnes, smoothed, the shank well-shaped, the ends well and round filed, counted and weighed.'

The pin manufactory affords employment to a number of children of both sexes, who are thus not only prevented from acquiring habits of idleness and vice, but are, on the contrary, initiated in their early years in those beneficial and virtuous industry.

The Exact Cut.

Next Fuller relates, that 'Sir Philip Hoby, who lived in the reign of King Henry the Seventh, having sent as much of fine French Tawny as would make a gown, to a tailor in Norwich, it happened that one John Drakes, a shoemaker, came into the shop, liked it so well, that he bought of the same as much for a doublet, enjoining the tailor to make it of the same fashion. The Knight being informed of this, commanded the tailor to cut his gown without holes as his shears could make; so he purged John Drakes of his proud vanity, that he would never be of that gentleman's fashion again.'

Emperor Paul.

Russian Emperor, Paul, into whose position the departed soul of some pragmatic tailor would almost seem to have been transmigrated, was regularly attentive to the wishes of his subjects. It was regulated by his will itself, under his orders. The dress of a cocked-hat, or, for want of one,

a round hat pinned up with three corners; a long euc, a single-breasted coat and waistcoat, knee buckles instead of strings, and buckles in the shoes. Orders were given to arrest any person seen in pantaloons. A servant was caned in the streets for wearing his neckcloth too thick. A lady at court wearing her hair rather lower in her neck than was consistent with the decorum, was ordered into close confinement, to be fed on bread and water.

Royal Colours.

St. Pierre, in his 'Studies of Nature,' maintains red to be the perfection of colour, as a circle is of form; and says that both are preferred by children and people in a state of nature. Red, or rather scarlet, was the colour of the robe called *chlamys*, worn by the Roman Consuls in war, and by the emperors; and it is said to have been borrowed by the Romans from the Gauls. It is not quite certain what was the exact hue of the borders called purple, which edged the robes of the Roman Senators; whether scarlet, or what we now commonly call purple, a tint compounded of crimson and dark blue. They have been represented of each tint on the stage; the Italians use the red one. What the Tyrian dye, or Imperial purple, was, has not, we believe, been clearly ascertained; but from the passages which speak of it, it appears to have been a tint of great richness and splendour. Cardinals are said to be raised to the purple, though their dresses and hats are red. The Popes' state carriages are, or used to be, covered with red velvet, and there are many rooms in the Vatican so lined.

The only royal family in modern times, which has selected scarlet for its household colour, is that of England. The households of all the Bourbon kings, of the Portuguese, Prussian, Swedish, and Netherlandish, sovereigns, and of most of the German princes, wear blue; Austria delights in black and yellow; Russia in dark green; the court of England alone blazes in scarlet. All persons of taste in costume agree, that it presents the most brilliant appearance of any of the European court uniforms. The Emperor Alexander was so pleased with it on his visit to this country, after the peace of Paris, that on his return home, he had a number of the waiting servants in his palace habited in dresses of the same colour and fashion as those of the English court, with the exception of the facings, in which the Russian dark green was preserved.

According to the popular belief, scarlet, as the royal household colour of England, originated from the red rose of the Plantagenets; but this is a mistake. It was taken from the field *gules* of the royal standard, and from Henry's adoption of the scarlet dresses of the Yeomen of the Guard. Shortly after the accession of George the First, a book was published, giving some general account of

Britain and Hanover, in which the pious author mentions, as one of the providential signs or coincidents in favour of the Brunswick line, that the Elector and the King of England had guards dressed in exactly the same colour!

In Cole's MSS. in the British Museum there is preserved a curious ordinance of Queen Elizabeth, by which the *aldermen's wives* of Cambridge are admitted to participate in the royal privilege of wearing scarlet. For the benefit of this respectable part of our female community, though possibly somewhat to the annoyance of their spouses, we shall quote the order entire:—'Md., 7th October, 2nd Elizabeth. It was ordained, that every alderman who has been made before Christmas next shall buy for his wife a gown of scarlet; and that every mayor before the Michaelmas next after his election buy for his wife a scarlet gown, upon forfeiture of ten pounds; five pounds to the use of the town, fifty shillings to the poor man's box, and fifty shillings to the use of the mayor. And that their wives shall wear their gowns at the feasts following, Christmas Day, Easter Day, Ascension Day, Whit Sunday, &c. To forfeit twenty shillings for every default; five shillings to the poor's box, five shillings to the mayor, and ten shillings to the use of the town.

Mourning Costumes.

The colours of dress for mourning differ according to persons and countries. In Italy the women once mourned in white, and the men in brown. In China they wear white. In Turkey, Syria, Cappadocia, and Armenia celestial blue. In Egypt yellow, or the colour of a dead leaf. The Ethiopians wear grey; and in Europe the mourning colour is black.

Each of these colours had originally its signification: white is the emblem of purity; celestial blue denotes the place we wish to go to after death; yellow, or the dead leaf, indicates that death is the end of human hope, and that man falls as the leaf; grey signifies the earth to which the dead return; and black marks the absence of life, because it is the want of life.

The Lycians, as we read in Valerius Maximus, when any cause of mourning befel them, put on the clothes of women, in order that the effeminacy of the dress might the sooner make them ashamed of grieving. The Thracians, again, never grieved at all, but used to celebrate the death of a friend with every expression of mirth and joy, as a removal from a state of misery to one of never-ending felicity.

Previous to the reign of Charles VIII. the Queens of France wore *white* upon the death of their husbands, and were called *reines blanches*. On the death of that monarch, the colour was changed to black.

A wardrobe account for half a year to Lady Day, 1684, in a MS. purchased by Mr. Brander, at the sale of the library of George

Scott, Esq., of Woolston Hall, contains the following entries for the king's mourning: 'A grey coat lined with murrey and white flowered silk, with gold loops, and four crape hatbands. A sad coloured silk coat, lined with gold striped lutestring, with silver and silk buttons, and a purple crape hatband. purple coat.'

The Emperor Leopold, who died in 1705 never shaved his beard during the time of mourning, which often lasted for a considerable period. In this he followed the example of the Jews. The empress dowagers never lay aside their mourning; and even the apartments are hung with black till the deaths.

The nieces of the Popes never wear mourning, not even for their nearest relations; the Romans deem it so great a happiness for a family to have a Pope in it, that nothing ought to afflict his Holiness's kindred.

Queen Anne, on the death of her husband Prince George of Denmark, wore black and white, with a mixture of purple in some part of her dress. The precedent was taken from the dress worn by Mary Queen of Scots at the Earl of Darnley, which was a case exact in point.

The costume prescribed for mourning is entirely arbitrary, depending upon the taste and usages of different countries. In England purple is the peculiar mourning worn by the sovereign. The king and queen never wear black.

Gloves.

Charlemagne, about the year 790, granted an unlimited right of hunting to the abbots and monks of Sithin, for making gloves and girdles of the skins of the deer they killed, and covers for their books. Stow relates that Edward Vere, Earl of Oxford, having travelled into Italy, is recorded to have been the first that brought into England *embroidered gloves* and perfumes; and, presenting the queen (Elizabeth) with a pair of the former, she was so pleased with them as to be drawn with them in one of her portraits.

George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland, received a glove from Queen Elizabeth. The queen had dropped it, when the earl took it up to return to her, she presented it to him as a mark of her esteem. He adorned it with jewels, and wore it in the front of his hat at the tournaments.

Sumptuary Laws.

However absurd some fashions may appear, or however culpable in a moral point of view, luxurious modes of living may be, sumptuary laws have been considered by all sound economists as equally unjust and inexpedient, because of their depriving us of a portion of liberty, which it is not requisite for the welfare of the state that we should give up; and inexpedient, because such is the variability of our natures, that no sooner is ex-

strained in one shape, than it breaks forth in another, and perhaps a contrary direction. Never was this more strongly exemplified than the changes already noticed from long-tailed to square-toed shoes, and from short to long doublets; but indeed the whole history of fashion is a series of triumphs over interference and restraint.

The Statute Book of England, compared with that of other countries, contains, however, but few laws of this sort; and all of them, except one, which had been overlooked, is noticed by Blackstone, were repealed at the beginning of the reign of James I. Feudal barons having since then lost the power of despots over their vassals and dependants, and the distinctions between the ranks of society having become softened down to more easy and regular gradations, laws of this kind have, in modern time, ever been deemed too contemptible and impolitic to be introduced into a British House of Parliament.

Mirrors.

Dr. Shaw relates, that 'in the Levant, mirrors form a part of female dress; for that the Turkish women in Barbary are so fond of their ornaments, and particularly of their ding-glass, which they hang upon their chests, that they will not lay them aside, when after the drudgery of the day they are obliged to go two or three miles with a pail of water on their heads, or a goat's skin to fetch water.' The Turkish women were so fond of their mirrors, made of polished brass, that they even carried them to their most solemn places of worship.

Variety.

Queen Elizabeth of England, and her royal cousin, the Empress of Russia, were both remarkable for a love of dress, and both adorned their persons every adventitious that might add to their native charms. Elizabeth of England was said to possess a new dress every day in the year; and she ordered its form and decoration to three hundred and sixty-five inventions of fancy; and the Empress of Russia, a thick quarto volume was filled with a simple detail of her dresses.

Her passion for variety has not, however, been confined to the fair sex. A Roman senator, who had resolved on treating his guests with a most magnificent theatrical spectacle, sent to Lucullus to borrow a hundred short cloaks for the occasion. Lucullus, that he would inquire whether he had as many, and desired the messenger to call the next day. On his doing so, Lucullus told him to inform his master that he had *five thousand*. 'If or any of which were very much at service!' At the public feasts, even private ones, would change their cloaks repeatedly during the entertainment, for the ostentatious

purpose of showing the variety of their wardrobe; hence Martial,

'Undecies una surrexit Zoile cœna

Et mutua tibi est Synthesis undecies.'

In the reign of Richard the Second, Sir John Arundel, on his way home from the Continent, was cast away in a tempest. Among the articles of his wardrobe which were lost, are enumerated two hundred and fifty new suits of apparel, made of cloth of gold and tissue. When Dresden fell into the hands of Prussia, during the Seven Years' War, the wardrobe of the Saxon minister, Count Buhl, afforded a spoil of no less than eight hundred pairs of boots, and twelve hundred wigs, of every variety of shape and colour. It was whispered, that besides these, many hundred dozens of shirts, silk stockings, and laced cravats, with every species of masculine finery, had been privately sent from the same store, to different marts, and converted into cash for the royal treasury.

Generals in Periwigs.

Queen Anne was a great admirer of full-bottomed periwigs; and seemed to think a general nothing of a soldier without one. Some of her officers, who had served in Flanders, imported an alteration of this favourite costume; it consisted in collecting the monstrous tail or fleece, and tying it up with ribands. When this daring innovation was first noticed at court, the queen, turning to the lady of the bed-chamber in waiting, indignantly said, 'I suppose that presently gentlemen will be coming into court in their jack-boots.'

This fashion of adorning the head, was first introduced into England from France. In the tapestry at Versailles, Louis XIV. is represented in a full-bottomed dress perwig, superintending at a safe distance the passage of the Rhine, in which so many of the French nobility lost their lives.

Fans.

The fan of antiquity was of a very different shape from that in use in our time; it was more like a hand screen with a round handle, was frequently composed of feathers, and then was used by the Roman ladies; the Italian fans were, however, very like ours, and it is probable that the shape of the modern fan has been copied from the Italians. It appears that men were sometimes so effeminate as to use a fan. Greene reproaches the men of his day from wearing plumes of feathers in their hands, which in war their ancestors wore on their heads. Looking-glasses were sometimes set in these fans, in the broad part above the handle.

It was formerly the fashion of a servant to attend on purpose to carry the lady's fan when she walked out, and this was one of the offices of her gentleman usher.

'In Spain,' says a recent traveller, 'the fan

is a universal appendage to a lady's dress; she is scarcely ever seen without it, when in a promenade or in the drawing-room. In that warm climate it is rather indispensable for its utility, and it serves also as a graceful assistant to their expressive action in conversation.

'Lady W— (Wellesley, we presume) assimilates herself with Spanish fashion; she has adopted the dress of the ladies; in the playful use of the fan, she confesses her deficiency; she has translated Addison's description of his application of it by the ladies of different ages and inclinations, which the Spanish ladies exemplify, and allow to be correct. You would hardly have supposed that the *Spectator* was in Cadiz; but as I have it at hand, I will quote the passage which gives you the words of command, and I will refer you to the second paper of the work, for the full explanation of them:

Handle your fans.
Unfurl your fans.
Discharge your fans.
Ground your fans.
Recover your fans.
Flutter your fans.

'All these parts of the exercise a lady told me were correct; and she went through her part in the various uses of it, from youth to age, as perfectly as if Addison had been the drill sergeant.'

Burleigh Precepts.

Among the papers inserted in what is called the Black Paper Book of the University of Cambridge, there is a letter from Lord Burleigh, Chancellor of the University, dated 'from my house in the Strand this seventhe of May, 1588,' against excess of apparel, and containing some curious orders, which he required to be observed. The first of these orders was:

'That no hat be worne of anie graduate or scholler, within the said Universitie, (except it shall be when he shall journey owte of the towne, or excepte in the tyme of his sicknes.) All graduates were to weare square caps of cloth; and schollers, not graduates, round cloth caps, saving that it maye be lawfull for the sonnes of noblemen, or the sonnes and heires of knights, to weare round caps of velvet, but no hats.'

2d. 'All graduates shall weare abroade in the Universitie, going owte of his colledg, a gowne and an hooe of cloth, according to the order of his degree. Provided, that it shall be lawfull for everie D. D. and for the Mr. of anie coll. to weare a sarcenet tippet, or a tippet of velvet, according to the aneient customs of this realme, and of the saide Universitie. The whiche gowne, tippet, and square caps, the saide Drs. and heads shall be likewise bounde to weare, when they shall resorte cyther to the courte, or to the citie of London.'

3d. 'And that the excesse of shirt bands and ruffles, exceeding an ynch and halfe,

(saving the sonnes of noblemen, the fashion of colour other than white, be avoyded presentlie and noscholler. or fellowe of the foundation of anie howse of learninge, doe weare either in the Universitie or without, &c. anie hose, stockings, dublets, jackets, crates, or jerknees, or anie other kynde of garment, of velvet, satten or silke, or in the facing of the same, shall have above $\frac{1}{4}$ yarde of silke, or shall use any other light kynde of colour, or cuts, or gards or fashion, the which shall be forbidden by the chancellor,' &c.

4th. 'And that no scholler doe weare any long lockes of haire vppon his head, but that he be notted, pouled, or rounded, after the accustomed maner of the gravest schollers of the saide Universitie.' The penalty for every offence against these orders, or any of them was 6s. 8d.

George the First.

During the war of 1743, a victory gained over the French was celebrated by an ode written and set to music for the occasion, and performed several nights before the king (George I.) in the great council chamber. His majesty at these performances chose to appear in a hat, coat, sword, and scarf, which he wore at the battle of Oudenarde, where he fought under the great Duke of Marlborough; and as the lapse of nearly forty years had produced a considerable difference in the modes of dress, the company assembled felt it difficult to restrain from laughing, seeing the monarch strut about in these antiquated habiliments. When, at length, an unlucky couplet in the ode, proclaimed that

'Sure such a day was never known,
Such a king! and such a throne,

the attention of the audience was so particularly drawn to the king and his dress, that they fell instantly into a general titter, which soon exceeded all the bounds of court decorum. On this, one of the lords of the bed-chamber began clapping his hands. The company took the hint, and relieved themselves by joining in a general plaudit, which the king gratefully acknowledged, and the good of the king seemed highly pleased, without being at all aware of the real cause of the commotion.

Imitation of the Great.

'The people vary too,
Just as their princes do.'

So saith Claudian, as quaintly translated by Clarke, and, of the truth of the remark, fashion is little else than a series of examples. In the court of Alexander the Great, even one affected to carry his head awry: because that mighty hero had a twist in his neck which made it with him a grace of necessity. Dionysius was extremely short-sighted; and his flatterers, as Montaigne tells us, 'ran against one another in his presence, stumbling at and overturned whatever was under foot to show that they were as purblind as the

veraign.' Don John of Austria, son of Charles the Fifth, had a large patch of hair on one side of his head, which grew upright as bristles; and to conceal the peculiarity, he used to comb back the whole of the hair on his forehead; when he went as governor into the Low Countries, all the people fashion there immediately fell into the same mode, and from them it would seem to have descended to our own times. Ruffs, once so fashionable in England, that even bishops and kings condescended to adopt them, and were at last to lay them aside, are said to have been introduced by Queen Anne, wife of James I., who wore them to conceal a wen in her neck. Nay, at so recent a period as the reign of George the Third, when curled periwigs gave way to the fashion of dressing the natural hair after the periwig style, we have seen it the mode to wear a curl on one side of the temple only, because his Royal Highness the Duke of York, in his gallant duel with Colonel Lenox, had one of these natural ornaments shot away. But what are all the tances we have quoted to that of the Ethiopians as recorded by Diodorus Siculus? 'It was a custom among them,' says he, 'when they had a lame or one-eyed creign, they would voluntarily break a limb, or pluck out an eye; for they thought exceedingly uncomely in them to walk upright, when their prince was forced to halt; to see with two eyes, when their gracious star could only see with one!'

High and Low Head-dresses.

About the year 1714, two English ladies visiting Versailles, gave the fashion of low head-dresses to the French ladies, who at that time wore them so high, arranged like organs, that their heads seemed in the middle of their bodies. The king loudly expressed approbation of the superior taste and elegance of the English fashion, when the ladies of the court were of course eager to adopt it.

The high head-dresses, however, had already been exploded in France, than they were adopted in England, and carried to the most extravagance. The ingenuity of the dress-makers was raked to know how to build ratiue towers on the heads of our females, various have been the expedients they hit upon in cases of emergency; a lady's hair, or an old distaff, often serving the purpose of producing a due elevation.

Elizabethan Head-dresses.

In Elizabethan times, whose excessive love of dress was one of the few weaknesses she possessed, was particular in issuing regulations for the guidance of her court and household. In the Harleian MSS. there is a singular order for regulating the head-dresses of the ladies, according to their rank, of which the following is a copy.

'First: None shall weare an ermyne or letice bonnet, unless she be a gentlewoman borne, having armes.

'Item: a gentleman's wife, she being a gentlewoman borne, shall wear an ermyne or letice bonnet, havinge one powdringe in the topp; and, if she be of honourable stocke, to have two powdringes, one before another, in the topp.

'Item: an esquire's wife to have two powdringes.

'Item: an esquire's wife, for the body, to wear five powdringes; and, if she be of greater blood two before, which maketh seven.

'Item: a knight's wife to weare on her bonnet seven powdringes, or eight at the most, because of higher blood, as before.

'Item: a bannerette wife to wear ten powdringes.

'Item: a baron's wife fourteen.

'Item: viscountes to weare eighteen.

'Item: a countis to weare twenty-four powdringes, and above that estate, the number convenient at their pleasure.'

An Indian's Idea of Wearing Hats.

Among most savage tribes, a head-dress or covering is regarded as a mark of distinction, which only the highest in rank among them is entitled to wear. A Chayna Indian, who had accompanied M. Humboldt in his journey to the Oroonoko, was brought by him to France. He was so much struck on landing, when he saw the ground tilled by a peasant with a hat on, that he thought himself in a miserable country, where even the nobles followed the plough.

Cosmetics.

When or where cosmetics were first used to aid or repair the human complexion, is unknown; the Roman ladies used them, and the very list of their cosmetics would almost fill the columns of a modern newspaper. Ovid has noticed them, and even given a receipt for one which he considered the most celebrated. Pliny speaks of a wild vine which was used to refresh the complexion. Martial says, Fabula feared the rain on account of the chalk upon her face; and Sabella the sun, because of the ceruse with which she was painted.

Bachelor's Buttons.

In the poems of the seventeenth century, we meet with frequent mention of 'Bachelor's Buttons.' One of the commentators says there was an ancient custom with country fellows of carrying in their pockets the plant called 'Bachelor's Buttons,' whose flowers somewhat resemble a coat button, that they might know, by their growing or not growing there, what would be their success

with mistresses. Hence the Hostess in the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, 'He smells April and May; he will carry't; he will carry't; 'tis in his buttons he will carry't.'

Reason for Singularity.

A celebrated old general used to dress in a fantastic manner, by way of making himself better known. It is true, people would say, 'Who is that old fool?' but it is also true that the answer was, 'That is the famous general, who took such a place.'

Coaches.

Although chariots and carriages of various descriptions were very anciently used in war, and in triumphal processions, yet that luxury of fashion, the coach, is of very modern use. The invention, even to the very name, is claimed by Hungarian writers in behalf of their country. They inform us that the place where coaches were first made was called *Kottse*; and Listhuis, Bishop of Westprun, speaking of King Matthias Corvinus, says that he rode in a Kocho carriage, of which he was the original inventor.

It was not until about the middle of the reign of Queen Elizabeth that coaches were introduced into England. Before that time ladies chiefly rode on horseback, either single on their palfreys, or behind some person on a pillion. In this way Queen Elizabeth rode from London to Exeter behind the Lord Chancellor. Coaches were introduced into England from France, by Henry Fitzalan, the last Earl of Arundel of that name. At first they were only drawn by two horses. It was the favourite of James I., Buckingham, who, about the year 1619, began to have them drawn by six horses; and which an old historian tells us, 'was wondered at as a novelty, and imputed to him as a mastering pride.' Sedan chairs were brought into fashion in England, in 1634, by Sir Saunders Duncombe, who was a great traveller, and had most probably seen them at Sedan, in France, where it is supposed they were first made.

The use of coaches was at first almost exclusively confined to members of the royal family. The first courtier that ever had one in France was Jean de Laval de Bois Dauphin, whose enormous bulk disabled him from travelling on horseback.

In Germany, coaches were prohibited, as we learn by a curious proclamation issued by Duke Julius of Brunswick, in 1588, in which the decline of the national spirit, 'manly virtue, sincerity, boldness, honesty, and resolution' of the Germans is attributed to their having, without distinction, young and old, 'dared to give themselves up to indolence and to riding coaches.' He, therefore, orders that his subjects shall not travel or appear in coaches, but on riding horses only.

The coachman is generally placed on a seat raised before the body of the coach; but in

Spain he has been deprived of his situation, through a very remarkable circumstance. The Duke d'Olivares having found that a very important secret, on which he had conferred in his coach with a friend, had been overheard and revealed by his coachman, a royal decree was issued, by which the place of the Spanish coachman is the same with that of the French stage coachman and our postillion, namely, on the first horse to the left.

Wreck of Fashion

It was formerly the custom, that when fashions were worn out at Paris, the milliners and dressmakers sent the antiquated articles to Russia and Sweden, with which countries the commerce of fashion was not the least important. A vessel laden with such merchandise, was once run down in the channel of Petersburg. Next day a salmon was caught in the Neva, dressed in a white satin gown; in the same net were found two large cod fish, nearly enveloped in muslin handkerchiefs; and it was supposed that many a shark and porpoise was dressed in robes of the latest fashion, which had been intended for the fair ladies of Petersburg.

High Style in New York.

It is not long ago since the plain, unostentatious citizens of New York were for the first time surprised by the spectacle in their streets of a party of fashionables driving about in a coach and six, equally in defiance of republican usages and monarchical prerogative.

Pleased with the folly, a set of young gentlemen connected with one of the seminaries of science, resolved that they would not be outdone by the votaries of wealth and pleasure. They accordingly fitted out a coach and eight, and dashed away in still greater style, through the city. Nothing, it was supposed, could exceed the splendour of this display; but, alas! all our joys are fleeting and transitory. A few days after, a select corps of carmen made their appearance in the most fashionable part of the town, driving a new cart, to which were harnessed no less than *sixteen horses tandem*!

Thirteen of the owners rode each man his horse in the capacity of postillion; every man was dressed in a clean white frock, and had his hair powdered; one was mounted on an elevated seat, who drove three in hand, and two rode in the most graceful and dignified manner upon the cart. When they had done promenading, the party retired to a tavern, and spent the evening in a manner suitable to the burlesque, yet moral purpose of their day's amusement. The chairman (unless the journals of the day belie him) delivered a very admirable address on the dangers of extravagance in dress and equipage to a state; and the toasts were so many lessons on moderation and frugality; and the whole party returned home, each able to take care of it.

hial steed which had contributed so essentially to the exploit of the day. By this happy event of the power of ridicule, a stop at once put to a sort of emulation among sprigs of fashion, which in a country tried by so few rules of precedency, had wandered into the most absurd extremes. The young scholars who had red away in the coach and eight, were among the first to acknowledge the justness of the reproof; and one of them has in an epigram very appropriately entitled 'Carmen aphe,' handed down to posterity the services rendered to New York by the *Sixteen-land Club*.

French Silks.

In the course of the evidence given before the House of Lords on the subject of the trade, the prevalent taste of English for foreign fashions was rather curiously observed. A London manufacturer being asked if many French goods did not find their way into this country? replied, 'Yes, but I consider that an evil. There is a disposition in many to wear anything that comes from France; and we have frequently found a few silks thus introduced, however inferiorly, have been copied immediately; where there has been one French garment worn, there have been a thousand more as French from the very patterns thus copied. It is no uncommon thing for a manufacturer to copy a pattern immediately, and send it down to Brighton, and, by means of the women and smugglers, the silks are sold for French at a higher price than they could have fetched in London.'

Value of a Head of Hair.

The Countess of Suffolk had married Mr. Howard, and they were both so poor, that she took a resolution of going to Hanover, at the death of Queen Anne, in order to bring her court to the future royal family. It was their poverty, that, having some guests at dinner, and being disappointed of a visitance, the countess was forced to sell her hair to furnish the entertainment. Long before then in fashion, and the countess's being fine, long, and fair, produced her 7 pounds.

The countess's hair, however, appears to have exceeded in value by that of an Oxfordshire lass, of whom we find the following story recorded in the *Protestant* for July 10, 1700. 'An Oxfordshire lass lately courted by a young man of the country, who was not willing to marry unless her friends could advance fifty pounds for her portion; which they being incapable of doing, the lass came to this city, to sell her fortune, where she met with a good merchant in the Strand, who made a purchase of her hair which was delicately long and light, and gave her *sixty pounds* for it,

being twenty ounces at three pounds an ounce; with which money she joyfully returned into the country, and bought her a husband.'

Even the hair of this Oxfordshire lass is rivalled by that of an old lady who died in 1720, whose long grey tresses are said in the journals of that period to have been sold to a periwig maker for fifty pounds.

Silks.

It was in the time of Henry II. of England, that the use of silk garments was first brought out of Greece into Italy, and then into other parts of Christendom.

It is generally understood, however, that silk stockings were an article of dress unknown in this country before the middle of the sixteenth century. A pair of long Spanish silk hose was at that period considered as a donation worth the acceptance of a monarch, and such a pair was accordingly presented to King Edward the Sixth, by Sir Thomas Gresham.

In the third year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Mrs. Montague, the queen's silk-woman, presented to her majesty a pair of black knit silk stockings, which pleased her so well, that she would never wear any cloth hose afterwards.

James VI.

James VI., who seemed to think that nothing could be right which his sovereign pleasure did not regulate, took particular pains with the dress of his subjects. After disgracing the statute books with many absurd enactments on the subject, he at length procured it to be 'statuted, that the fashion of cloths now, anno 1621, presently used, be not changed by man or woman, and the wearers thereof, under the pain of forfeiture of the cloaths, and an hundred pounds to be paid by the wearer, and as much by the maker of the said cloaths, *toties quoties*.' According to the fashion then in use, that is ordained by law, and thus vainly attempted to be rendered perpetual, no person could wear lawns or cambries, or cloth trimmed with gold, or feathers on their heads, or pearls or precious stones, &c. To make the arbitrary nature of this law the more felt, it exempted from its operation those very persons to whom it was most likely to have a salutary application, viz., noblemen, prelates, lords of session, barons of quality, their wives, sons, and daughters; as also heralds, trumpeters, and minstrels.

Fardingales.

When Sir Peter Wych was ambassador from King James the First to the Grand Signior, his lady accompanied him to Constantinople. The Sultaness having heard much of the Lady Ambassador, wished to

see her ; and accordingly Lady Wych, accompanied by her waiting women, all of them neatly dressed in thin great fardingales, which was the court dress of the ladies at that time, waiting upon her highness. The Sultaness received her with great respect, but wondering much at the apparent extension of her size, enquired if that shape was peculiar to women of England. Lady Wych replied, that Englishwomen did not differ in shape from those of other countries ; and by explaining the nature of the fardingale, convinced the Sultaness that the deformity was in the dress, and not in the person.

Painting.

The origin of painting the face cannot be traced with any certainty, nor the period of the custom being introduced into England, but we have undoubted authority of its high antiquity. Among the various usages that the Saxons derived from the Britons, this may be included. Soon after the conversion of the Saxons to Christianity, the practice of painting the body fell under the ecclesiastical censure ; and it was prohibited by a law enacted as early as the year 785. This interdiction, however, did not produce a total abolition of skin painting, as we may learn from Malmesbury, who, enumerating the prevalent vices among the English at the time of the Norman conquest, ranks in the dark catalogue that of marking their skins with punctured paintings, by way of ornament. In the subsequent centuries this fashion seems to have been entirely abolished, except those vestiges of face painting that we find to this day retained by the ladies.

Fatal Frolic.

Charles the Sixth of France gave a masquerade, in which himself and five courtiers played the part of satyrs, to resemble which they were clothed in close linen habits, besmeared with rosin, and then stuck with down all over. One of the company, in a frolic, touched one of these satyrs with a lighted torch, as they were dancing in a ring. The consequence was, that all the six masks or satyrs were instantly enveloped in flames. Four of the six were burnt to death on the spot, and the king never recovered the fright and disorder occasioned by the accident.

Ear-Rings.

Julius Cæsar, in his youth, set the fashion of wearing ear-rings, which had before that time been confined to females and to slaves, who were chiefly distinguished in that manner from freemen. The custom once introduced, continued to be general among young men of family until the time of Alexander Severus, who, adhering closely to a manly simplicity of dress, abolished this effeminate foppery. Ear-rings have at various periods been

fashionable in France with gentlemen, even so late as the revolution, when the wearing of golden rings was prohibited.

Plate.

The use of plate was deemed so inconsistent with the simplicity of republican manners among the Romans, that, so late as the reign of 477 of the Commonwealth, P. Corn. Rufinus was expelled the senate because he possessed about ten pounds weight in silver, although he had been twice consul and once dictator dictations in which it might be presumed that he would have been indulged in the greater admissible latitude of pomp.

At a later period plate became so general notwithstanding various sumptuary laws prohibiting its use, that few persons of rank were without it, and in the time of the emperors was of gold. Crassus is said to have possessed some of which the workmanship alone cost about fifty shillings an ounce ; Sylla had silver dishes of sixteen hundred ounces, and one Drusianus Rotundus, a freedman of the Emperor Claudius, had one that weighed five hundred pounds, which was the centre dish of eight others, each weighing fifty pounds. Others, though not quite so extravagant with regard to size, were equally profuse in the abundance and value of their plate, and in general their sideboards were loaded with sumptuous display of massive vessels of the most costly description.

Starching.

In 1564, Mistress Dingham van den Plas, a native of Flanders, came to London with her husband, and followed the profession of starcher, in which she was very eminent. She met with great encouragement among the nobility and gentry of this country, and was the first that publicly taught the art of starching. Her price was four or five pounds for teaching her profession to any person, and another pound for teaching them how to make the starch.

Richness of Apparel.

When Michael Paleologus, the Greek emperor, sent some rich robes as a present to Nugus, the Scythian monarch, the latter asked of those who brought them 'Whether they could drive away calamities, sickness, and death, for if not he cared but little for them.'

How few, even among the wisest of modern civilized nations, have entertained so just a sense of the folly of sumptuousness in apparel as this rude Scythian. We feel no surprise when we read of such men as Charles, Duke of Burgundy, priding himself on having a garment valued at two hundred thousand ducats ; or of George, Duke of Buckingham, the favourite and minion of James the First, exhibiting before Louis XIII. of France

wels on his coat to the amount of £100,000, it who that admires the great and virtuous alegh, would not wish to see it erased from the memorable circumstances in his history at, when in favour at court, he used to dress with such splendour that his very toes were adorned with pearls and precious stones? The robes he wore on one occasion are supposed to be a contemporary to have been worth above a thousand crowns.

Marie Antoinette.

The fashion of wearing feathers, so much vogue in France and England previous to the French revolution, owed its origin to the fortunate Marie Antoinette. One day, finding some peacock's feathers on her toilette, which had been placed there accidentally, being designed to decorate some curious piece of fancy work, she stuck one upon her head; pleased with the effect, she added a second, and then asked for some small ostrich feathers; in short, before she quitted her dressing-room, by a beautiful arrangement of these feathers with artificial flowers and jewels, she astonished her attendants. The king desired they were the prettiest ornaments he had ever beheld on a lady's head. The Queen continued improving on the plan daily, and as fashion spread, not only through the kingdom, but to all Europe.

Not long after this princess's marriage she was prohibited, on account of her health, from riding on horseback, an exercise of which she was extremely fond. The order gave great pleasure to two corpulent duchesses in her train, who were overheard congratulating themselves on the prospect of being released from the necessity of attending the princess in her equestrian expeditions. The princess immediately set about considering how she could raise a laugh at the expense of these lusty dames, and at the same time not transgress the commands of her physicians. She accordingly ordered one of her household to procure her a number of asses, properly accoutred, by a certain morning. The duchesses were also ordered to be in attendance. When the asses were led out the princess very gravely told them that she intended to take an airing, and bid them mount. The ladies endeavoured to remonstrate, and rebuked the princess of her physician's orders. The Dauphiness, however, was lively, and leaping into her saddle, desired might follow. The duchesses obeyed, against their inclinations, and, as may be supposed, cut a ridiculous figure enough. The princess, however, affecting not in the least to perceive their embarrassment, made her amble in her train for the whole of a summer's morning, under the very windows of the palace, to the no small amusement of the king and court, who soon became acquainted with the secret of the affair. Such was the frivolous delights of a princess, who once to drink deeper of the cup of affliction than almost any female of modern times.

Buckles.

In an old newspaper, printed in the year 1693, we find the following invective against the wearing of buckles, which are then said to have been recently introduced. 'Certain foolish young men have lately brought about a new change in fashion. They have begun to fasten their shoes and knee bands with buckles, instead of ribands, wherewith their forefathers were content, and moreover, found them more easy and convenient; and surely every reasonable man will own they were more decent and modest, than those new-fangled, unseemly clasps or buckles, as they call them, which will gall and vex the bones of these vain coxcombs beyond sufferance, and make them repent of their pride and folly. We hope all grave and honourable persons will withhold their countenance from such effeminate and immodest ornaments. It belongeth to the reverend clergy to tell these thoughtless youths, in a solemn manner, that such things are forbidden in scripture.'

Buckles for the shoes were at first very small, then remarkably large; and at last entirely abolished for *strings*.

'Why large buckles, why the small?

Why no buckles now at all?

Of the matter right I take,

Alamode—for fashion's sake.'

In the year 1791, several respectable bucklemakers, from the towns of Birmingham, Walsall, and Wolverhampton, waited upon his present majesty, then Prince of Wales, at Carlton House, and were introduced into an audience by Mr. Sheridan. The purpose of the audience, was to present a petition, setting forth the distressed situation of thousands in the different branches of the buckle manufacture, from the fashion now become so prevalent, of wearing shoe strings instead of buckles. His royal highness received the deputation very gracefully, and after expressing his sympathy for the distressed buckle manufacturers, promised to do whatever he could, by his own example, to revive their trade. The prince accordingly not only resumed the wearing of buckles himself, but commanded that the fashion of tying the shoes should not be adopted by any person in his household. In this instance, however, fashion refused to be controlled, even by the example of royalty; for notwithstanding all the well-meant endeavours of his royal highness, buckles have never yet been able to recover the very prominent place which they once held among the ornaments of 'the complete gentleman.'

Military Mania.

During the revolutionary war with America, when men of the first rank and fortune in England did not disdain the life and habits of a soldier, the Duchess of Devonshire, dressed out in the regimentals of the Derby militia, of which the duke, her husband, was

colonel, visited them in their camps at Tip-tree and Warley. From this moment all the women, young and old, were seized with a kind of military mania for dress, and appeared even during the dog days, arrayed in scarlet broadcloth.

It is not a little remarkable, that anterior to this period, all the articles of dress correspondent with temporary occurrences, had been adopted by the men alone. In 1692, a neckcloth called a *Steenkirk*, from the celebrated battle of that name, appears to have been worn by every one who affected the character of a gentleman; and Marlborough's victory at Ramillies, served as an introduction, while it affixed the appellation to a handsome and expensive wig, at the beginning of the late century.

A Levee Accident.

A British consul at the court of St. Petersburg, attending to pay his compliments on a birthday, took his station, as usual, waiting to be presented when the empress passed by. The master of the ceremonies announcing, as the empress walked on, the names of the noblemen and gentlemen present, at last announced, 'the British Consul, Mr. C——.' The consul bowed, but unfortunately standing under a cut glass chandelier, and being somewhat fidgety, as most Englishmen are upon great occasions, had got somehow or other the toupee of his bag-wig entangled in the wire of the drops; so that, when he bowed (and that he did very low), there was at least two feet between his bald pate and the suspended periwig, and he could not, on rising, get his head into dock again. The smothered laugh was against him, and it required all his good sense and good nature, when he got home, to make so unlucky a day as pleasant as he did most others, to his amiable family.

Strange Tastes.

Among the ladies of Palestine, certain tastes prevail, which are strangely at variance with our European ideas of female beauty. Not only are the teeth discoloured and the eyebrows dyed, but the lips and chin are blackened with an indelible composition, as if the ladies were ambitious of the ornament of a beard!

Domestic Reproved.

One of the domestics of Frederick the Great, one day came to wait on him in an elegant flesh-coloured coat, thinking to please the king by his dress, because that was his favourite colour. Frederick, however, pretended not to observe him. The servant then perceived the mistake he had made, slipped out, and put on a coat more suitable to his station. The king noticed the change, and with great affability said to him, 'Tell me,

friend, who was that coxcomb that appeared at Sans Souci just now, in a flesh-coloured coat?'

Late Hours.

It may be doubted whether any of our English fashions or customs have undergone so thorough a change, as the hours of visiting and taking refreshment, the number of meals, and the time of retiring to rest. The stately dames of Edward the Fourth's court, rose with the lark, dispatched their dinner at eleven o'clock, and shortly after eight, were wrapt in slumber. In the Northumberland House Book, for 1512, we are informed, that the family rose at six in the morning, breakfasted at seven, dined at ten, and supped at four in the afternoon. The gates were all shut at nine, and no further ingress or egress permitted. In 1570, the University of Oxford used to dine at eleven o'clock, and sup at five in the afternoon.

The dinner hour, which was once so early as ten o'clock, has gradually got later and later, until now it would be thought the excess of vulgarity in the fashionable world, to sit down to table earlier than half-past six o'clock, while others extend it to nine and ten; and nothing is more common than public breakfasts at five or six, even seven o'clock in the evening.

One of the best sarcasms ever passed on this folly of late hours, was pronounced by Mr. Pitt. Being invited to dine with a lady of fashion at ten o'clock, he stated by way of apology, that he was very sorry he could not accept her ladyship's invitation to dine at ten, as he was engaged to sup with Dr. Prettyman at nine.

Enervating a People.

When Cyrus received intelligence that the Lydians had revolted from him, he told Croesus with a good deal of emotion, that he had almost determined to make them all slaves. Croesus begged him to pardon them. 'But,' says he, 'that they may no more rebel or be troublesome to you, command them to lay aside their arms, to wear long vests and buskins, that is, to vie with each other in the elegance and richness of their dress. Order them to drink, and sing, and play, and you will soon see their spirits broken, and themselves changed to the effeminacy of women, so that they will no more rebel, nor give you further uneasiness.' The advice was followed, and the result proved how judicious it was.

Contrast

Among the Hindoos, none but the women who are in the service of the pagodas are allowed to learn to read, to sing, and to dance. Such accomplishments belong to them exclusively, and are, for that reason, held by the

st of the sex in such abhorrence, that every virtuous woman would consider the mention of them as an affront. Peculiar to ladies of a description are also, perfumes; elegant attractive attire, particularly of the head; sweet-scented flowers, entwined with exquisite art about their hair; multitudes of ornamented trinkets, adapted with infinite taste to different parts of the body; a graceful carriage, and measured step, &c.

In reading these passages, we omit the fact, that this is the education of females intended for 'the service of the pagoda,' who would not believe that they related to the fact of some fashionable boarding school in every different quarter of the world!

Never Well.

was the fashion during the reign of Queen Anne, for no woman of very high rank ever to herself perfectly in health; a silly custom, ridiculed by Cibber, in his comedy of *Sick Lady's Cure*. The Duchess of Devonshire gave in to this folly with great extravagance, and particularly in travelling, in loads of straw were generally strewed before the door of her hotel to prevent the noise of passengers or carriages. In London towns, too, she frequently sent to the banding officer to have the drums muffled, so she remained in the place.

Count Daun.

Field-Marshal Count Daun is said to have a dress for every day in the year; and a line, in which these magnificent suits, with a cane, &c., appendant to each, were artistically depicted. This book was brought in every morning, and studied with more attention than any other volume in his immense collection.

Wisdom of Wigs.

When wigs were first introduced into England after the Restoration, some men of good consciences were greatly scandalized at this article of dress, considering it as very indecent with long hair, and more so, because utterly unnatural. Many persons inveighed against it in their sermons and cut their hair shorter, to express abhorrence of the reigning mode. It was observed, however, by the more discreet of the world, that a periwig procured persons a degree of respect and even attention, which they were strangers to before, and to which they had not the least claim from their personal merit. The judges and physicians, who thoroughly understood the magical influence of the wig, gave it all the advantage of length as well as size. Ecclesiastics themselves fell also, at length, into the fashion which they had so long condemned. Wood informs us that Nathaniel Vincent, Chaplain in Ord-

nary to the king, preached before him at Newmarket in a long periwig and Holland sleeves; according to the then fashion for gentlemen; and that his majesty was so offended at it that he commanded the Duke of Monmouth, Chancellor to the University of Cambridge, to see the statutes concerning decency of apparel put in execution, which was done accordingly.

In France, periwigs began to be first worn by the clergy about 1660. Cardinal Grimaldi, in 1684, and the Bishop of Lavaur in 1688, prohibited the use of them to all priests, without a dispensation or necessity. The fashion, indeed, was not without many zealous opponents even in France. M. Thiers has an express treatise to prove the peruke indecent in an ecclesiastic, and directly contrary to the decrees and canons of councils. A priest's head embellished with artificial hair, curiously adjusted, he esteems a monster in the church; nor can he conceive anything so scandalous as an abbot with a florid countenance, heightened with a well-curled peruke.

The fondness of some men for this unnatural ornament has carried them to great lengths. Granger mentions a country gentleman who employed a painter to put a number of admirable portraits by Vandyke into perukes!

Forms of Beards.

Among the fantastical vagaries which formerly diversified the form of beards, the stiletto beard was long distinguished. It was sharp and pointed, as its name implies, and is thus noticed in an old ballad:—

'The stiletto beard,
O, it makes me afraid,
It is so sharp beneath;
For he that doth place
A dagger in his face,
What must he wear in his sheath.'

It was also called a dagger beard, and is said to have been adopted from abroad. There were various other forms of beards, such as that of a Roman T, a spade, and even a tile, that is red and square. The beard like a T, is celebrated in the ballad already mentioned, where it is the first that is mentioned:—

'The Roman T,
In its bravery,
Doth first itself disclose;
But so high it turns,
That oft it burns,
With the flames of a torrid nose.'

Love Marks.

During the reign of England's maiden queen, it was the etiquette for a man professing himself deeply in love, to assume certain outward marks of negligence in his dress, as if too much occupied by his passion, to attend to such trifles; or driven by despondency to a forgetfulness of all outward appearances. In particular, his garters were

not to be tied. Thus Shakspeare, in *As You Like It*: 'Then there's none of my uncle's marks upon you; he taught me how to know a man in love. Then your hose should be ungartered, your bonnet unbanded, your sleeves unbuttoned, your shoes untied, and everything about you denoting a careless desolation.'

Gold Chains.

A gold chain was anciently a very fashionable ornament for persons of rank and dignity. Frequent mention is made in the works of the oldest and most celebrated of the British *torques*, or *golden wreath*, worn round the neck of their chieftains in the day of battle, as an ensign of authority, as well as a badge of honour and mark of noble descent. Ancurin, in his epic poem on the unfortunate battle of Cattaerth, written in the sixth century of the Christian era, describes the march of three hundred and sixty-three British leaders to the field of battle, all ornamented with golden *torques*.

'To Cattaerth's vale, in glitt'ring row,
Twice two hundred warriors go;
Ev'ry warrior's manly neck,
Chains of regal honour deck,
Wreath'd in many a golden link,
From the golden cup they drink,' &c.

GRAY.

In later times, a gold chain was also worn by rich merchants, who were in the habit of lending out money on usury; a custom which is alluded to by Shakspeare in *Much ado about Nothing*, when he says, 'What fashion will you wear the garland of? about your neck, an *usurer's chain*?'

When the dignity of the fashion had a little declined, the chain became a distinction for the upper servant of a family, particularly a steward. We now see it, however, again shining in all its original splendour, as the exclusive ornament of lord mayors and aldermen.

Peter the Great.

Peter the Great, amongst his many schemes for the civilization of the Russians, took great pains to accustom them to the manners and usages of the nations among whom he had travelled, and from whom he had obtained masters to instruct his subjects in every useful and ornamental department of knowledge. He thought it particularly fit that the Russians should not be dressed in a different manner from those who were teaching them the arts and sciences; because the aversion to foreign nations is too natural to mankind, and too much encouraged by a difference of dress. The long Asiatic robe, which was at that time the Russian habit of ceremony, was sufficiently noble; but the clothes worn by the burghers and the lower sort of the people, were like those jackets, plaited round the waist, which used to be given to the poor in

the French hospitals. The Czar found no difficulty in introducing the dress of Western Europe among his courtiers; but the people were more stubborn, so that he was obliged to lay a tax on long coats, as we have already mentioned he did on long beards. Patterns of cloth were hung up at the gates of the towns, and those who refused to pay for the privilege of nonconformity, were publicly docked of their superfluities. All this was done with great gaiety, and this circumstance alone, perhaps, prevented a civil war arising out of the innovation.

The great plea of the people for adhering to their old fashion of dress, was, that it had been that of the good old times of their forefathers. To show in a pleasant way the folly of this argument, Peter, when at Moscow in the winter of 1703, caused all the neighbouring Boyars and ladies to be invited to the marriage of one of his jesters; and gave him commands that every person should be dressed in the ancient fashion. Dinner was served just in the same manner as it would have been in the sixteenth century. There had been formerly a superstitious custom of not lighting a fire on their wedding day, even in the severest frost; this custom was strictly observed at the present entertainment. The Russians used to drink no wine, but only mead and brandy, and now nothing but mead and brandy was served up. In vain did the guests complain of this treatment; he answered them in a jocular manner, 'Your ancestor did so: and surely ancient customs are always the best.'

Piccadilly.

The name of this street is generally believed to have had its origin in an article of dress once fashionable, called a *piccadell* or a *pick-dill*, a kind of collar, made in the form of band. Blount says, the street was built by one Higgins, a tailor, who got most of his estates by *piccadilles*, which in the last age were much in fashion. It is, however, believed, that Higgins only built a few houses to which he gave the name that the street now retains.

When the king was expected at Cambridge in 1613, the Vice-Chancellor made an order against wearing *pickadells*, or *piccadilloes*, they were then called.

Medical Costume.

Medicine itself has not undergone great changes than the costume of medical men. One extravagance has given way after another; till at last, the profession is now almost entirely stripped of that part of its mummerly. The tie-wig was the longest retained, but it was at last got rid of by a curious circumstance.

Dr. Somnerville, who frequented a coffee-house much resorted to by the faculty, took into his head to appear in coloured clothes, and

without a sword; this gave great offence to me of his brethren, who on this account invited him. The following day, the doctor renewed his visit to the coffee-house, dressed the Jehu wig of his coachman, who, on the contrary, wore the doctor's tie, and accompanied him. 'Here, gentlemen,' said the doctor, 'is an argument to the purpose, that knowledge does not consist in exteriors. There is not one of you would trust me to save you; and the world shall see, as I pass through the streets of London, that the wigs do not constitute the physician.' Continuing for several days to visit the coffee-house and his patients, thus metamorphosed, the tie-wig became an object of ridicule instead of respect, and was at length universally abandoned.

Love Locks.

In the reign of James I., it became a fashion among the beaux to wear a long lock of hair, pendant from the left temple; and the ladies gave to it the name of the *love lock*. The late Prynne thought this so prominent a mark of the times, in the succeeding reign, that he wrote no less than a quarto volume against the *unloveliness of love locks*. The fashion expired with Charles I.

Court Mournings.

The custom of converting court mournings into public ones, is very often injurious to the prosperity of which, it is the greatest recommendation of fashion that it materially contributes. It has also something in it extremely absurd. 'When one is desired (says the *Spectator*) to ask the wife of a desman, whom she has lost of her family; after some preparation, endeavours to tell whom she mourns for, how ridiculous is to hear her explain herself, that we have lost one of the house of Austria!' The same error gives a ludicrous picture of an old acquaintance of his in narrow circumstances, possessed with a strong propensity to appear as a man of fashion, who made a single mourning coat serve, by help of scouring, ironing, and fresh buttons, for half the potent in Europe.

Antique Assembly.

The Germans have an old and very singular amusement, to which they give the name of *Schafft*, or the Feast of Landlord and Landlady. It was revived by the Emperor Charles VI., on the visit to Vienna of Peter the Great, after it had been in disuse during the latter part of his reign. According to the original manner of celebrating it, the emperor, the landlord; and the empress, the landlady. Among the Romans, the archdukes, and archduchesses, were generally their assistants. They entertained people of all nations, and after the most ancient fashion of their

respective countries. Those who were invited as guests, drew lots for tickets, on each of which was written the name of the nation and the character they were to represent. One had a ticket for a Chinese Mandarin; another for a Tartarian Mirza; another for a Persian Satrap, or a Roman Senator. A princess might happen to draw lots for a gardener's wife, or a milkwoman; and a prince might act the peasant or soldier. They had dances suited to their different characters; and the landlord and landlady, with their family, waited at table. Such was the old custom; but, on the present occasion, Joseph, King of the Romans, and the Countess of Traun, represented the ancient Egyptians; the Archduke Charles and the Countess of Walstein were dressed like the Flemings in the reign of Charles V.; the Archduchess Mary Elizabeth, and Count Traun, were in the habit of Tartars; the Archduchess Josephina, and the Count of Vorkla, appeared in a Persian dress; the Archduchess Marianne, and Prince Maximilian of Hanover, acted the character of North Holland peasants; Peter assumed the habit of a Friezland boor, and in this character was addressed by everybody; at the same time that they talked to him a great deal about the Great Czar of Muscovy!

Who is your Tailor?

A gentleman desired the most fashionable tailor in Paris, to make him a coat in a particular way. 'Sir,' said the tailor, 'that shape has been out of fashion these six months; pray do have it of a proper cut.' 'I do not care for fashion,' said the gentleman, 'I will wear my coat in the way that is most agreeable to me.' The tailor remonstrated, and begged in vain; but at last, unwilling to lose a good customer, he said, 'Well, sir, I have only to entreat, as a return for executing your order, that you will keep it a secret who is your tailor, or I shall lose all my business.'

Public Dinners.

Our ancestors were certainly more domestic than we are in the present day; for the gentlemen and tradesmen a century ago, either remained at home with their families, or if they went out, it was to some social club. In times of yore, they never thought of congregating with ladies at a rout, or assembling by hundreds for the mere purpose of eating and drinking. But now there is scarcely a single object upon which men associate, that does not produce dinners in abundance. Political, charitable, literary, and even religious bodies, all seem to think dining together an essential bond of union. At these meetings, men are assembled, who often have no personal acquaintance, or any other points of intercommunity than the single one which has brought them together. A great man is placed in the chair, who is expected to deliver some

thing like a speech. He is followed by some volunteer orators, who are usually prolix and noisy in proportion to their emptiness. A bad dinner is served to a hungry crowd, eagerly grasping at the dishes within their reach, amidst an intolerable clatter of plates, and din of guests and waiters. Toasts, with three times three, succeed the removal of the cloth. Hired singers entertain the company with loyal and bacchanalian strains; and such as can bear the Babel of noises, stay till they have swallowed wine enough to make a good bargain of their tickets; while the quiet and sober slink off to their homes, perhaps repeating from Soame Jenyns,

'Afflict us not, ye gods! tho' sinners,
With many days like this, and dinners.'

Such are the generality of our society-festivals, which may do honour to the national character in the eye of strangers, but contribute little to improve our manners. Public spirit, or, at least, the corporate spirit, may be invigorated by them; but as this is an advantage common to all parties, no one cause receives the benefit. With respect to charitable institutions, as it enhances the expense attending them, it can scarcely conduce to their ultimate benefit. The Quakers, who are the most active supporters of all useful charities, do not require such a stimulus for their exertions.

Reason for a Long Beard.

The Rev. John More, of Norwich, a worthy clergyman in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, is said to have had the longest and largest beard of any Englishman of his time. He used to give as a reason for it, 'that no act of his life might be unworthy of the gravity of his appearance.'

Spending the Summer.

The revolution of a century has made no alteration in modes of life more conspicuous, than that of the way in which the wealthier inhabitants of our towns spend the summer season. The fashionable places of resort were formerly Epsom, Tunbridge, Bath, and Scarborough, all of them noted for their mineral waters. These places, in the beginning of the last century, were frequented not only by invalids, but by men of pleasure, gamblers, fortune hunters, and the usual attendants on the gay and idle. The whole number thus disposed of, however, bore no proportion to the crowds which now annually flock to the sea-bathing places, almost depopulating not only the great towns, but even the most delightful retreats of our nobility and gentry.

The amazing progress of this fashion, which is entirely of modern growth, is apparent, in the number of coaches, steam-boats, and other conveyances, that ply between the great towns and the watering places during summer; as well as in the annual conversion of mere

fishing villages round the coast, into groups of lodging houses, built after the London mode, and accompanied by subscription libraries, billiard tables, and other places of public resort. Several of these have now become populous towns; and the whole presents a feature in our sea-girt domain, to which nothing in past times can bear the least resemblance.

Modern Antiques.

The town of Dieppe has a suburb called Pollet. Three-fourths of the natives of that part are fishermen; and not less effectually distinguished from the citizens of Dieppe, by their name of Poltese, taken from their place of residence, than by the difference in their dress and language, the simplicity of their manners, and the narrow extent of their requirements. To the present hour they continue to preserve the same costume as in the sixteenth century; wearing trousers covered with wide short petticoats, which open in the middle to afford room for the legs to move, and woollen waistcoats laced in the front with ribbands, and tucked below into the waistbands of their trousers. Over these waistcoats is a close coat, without buttons or fastenings of any kind, which falls so low as to hide the petticoats, and extend a foot or more beyond them. These articles of apparel are usually of cloth and serge of a uniform colour, and either red or blue; for they interdict every other variation, except that all the seams of their dress are faced with white silk galloon full an inch in width. To complete the whole, instead of hats, they have on their heads caps of velvet or covered cloth, forming a *ten ensemble* of attire, which is evidently ancient, but far from unpicturesque or displeasing. Thus clad, the Poltese, though in the midst of the kingdom, have the appearance of a distinct and foreign colony; whilst occupied incessantly in fishing, they have remained equally strangers to the civilization and politeness, which the progress of letters during the last two centuries has diffused over France.

Bearding a Bishop.

Guillaume Duprat, Bishop of Clermont, who assisted at the Council of Trent, and built the college of the Jesuits at Paris, was remarkable for the fineness of his beard. He was, indeed, deemed too good a beard for a bishop; and the canons of his cathedral, in full chapter assembled, came to the barbarous resolution of shaving him. Accordingly, when he next came to the choir, the dean, the *prevot*, and the *chantre* approached, with scissors and razors, soap bason, and warm water. At sight of these implements, the bishop took to his heels, and escaped to the castle of Beauregard, about two leagues from Clermont, where he fell ill from vexation, and died. During his sickness, he made a vow never to set foot in Clermont, where they had

tered him so villainous an insult : and to be avenged, he exchanged his bishopric with cardinal Salviati, nephew of Pope Leo X., who was so young, that he had not a hair on his chin. Duprat, however, repented of the exchange before his death, and wrote a letter to Salviati on the subject, in which he cited these lines of Martial,

*Id tu nec propera, brevibus nec crede capillis,
Ardaque pro tanto munere barba veni.*

Cross Purposes.

The dress of the females in Milo, one of the clades, is very singular. Their petticoats are no lower than their knees, as if on purpose to show their legs ; and yet it is no common thing to see them with seven or eight pair of stockings on, besides bandages and the small of the leg, which render them more deformed than nature intended them.

American Fashions.

In North America, the fashions in the middle of the last century were somewhat unusual, and certainly more splendid than might have been expected at that time in a distant colony of Great Britain. In general, however, they were a pretty exact imitation of those of the mother country. The following account is taken from a recent United States paper.

Twenty years ago, cocked hats, wigs, and clarks, were the usual dress of gentlemen ; boots were rarely seen, except among army men. Shoestrings were worn only by those who could not buy any sort of shoes. In winter, round coats were used, stiff with buckram, which came down to the knees in front.

Before the Revolution, boys wore wigs and cocked hats ; and boys of genteel families wore cocked hats till within about thirty

years. The dress for gentlemen, consisted of silk and breeches of the same and embroidered coats ; sometimes white satin breeches. These were fashionable till within fifteen or twenty years ; and a man could not have remained in a ball-room with shoestrings. It was usual for the bride, bridegroom, and the men attending, to go to church for three successive Sundays after the wedding, with a change of dress each day. A gentleman who died not long since, appeared the first Sunday in white broadcloth, the second in blue and gold, the third in blue and pearl buttons. Till within about twenty years, gentlemen wore ruffles, and many of them sat from thirty to sixty minutes every day under the barber's razor, to have their hair craped, suffering no inconsiderable pain most of the time from hair-dress, and sometimes from the hot curling-irons. Crape cushions, and hoops, were in-

dispensable in full dress, till within about thirty years. A sailor, walking in one of the streets of the city, met two ladies whose hoops entirely occupied the pavement, and seeing no way by which he might pass them without going into the street, (there being no pavement) he, with no small agility, sprang completely over the hoops, and through a vacancy made by their extension, to the infinite diversion of the spectators. At the elbows, the ladies wore from four to six rows of ruffles. They wore no bonnets whatever ; and the head-dress consisted of a large quantity of wool laid on the head, with the hair lapped fancifully over it ; these were denominated cushions, and were generally six inches high. Another kind of head-dress, which was called a calash, was made in the manner of a gig top, and was drawn over the face when the heat of the sun was too oppressive. No parasols were in use then ; and a gentleman who brought a large umbrella from England, was, in consequence of it, considered a great fop. The ladies wore shoes with sharp toes, and large silver buckles set with brilliant stones. Silk stockings were worn by ladies and gentlemen, cotton ones not being known then. Ladies' gowns generally had a train from two to three feet long. Sometimes ladies were dressed the day before the party, and slept in easy chairs, to keep their hair in fit condition for the following night. Most ladies went to parties on foot, if they could not get a cast in a friend's carriage or chaise. Gentlemen rarely had a chance to ride.

The latest dinner hour was two o'clock ; some officers of the colonial government dined later occasionally. In genteel families, ladies went to drink tea about four o'clock, and rarely staid after candlelight in summer. It was the fashion for ladies to propose a visit, not to wait for an invitation.

Roman Dinner Dress.

Among the Romans, the dress worn at table differed from that in use on other occasions, and consisted merely of a loose robe, of a light texture, and generally white. Cicero accuses Valerius, as if it were a crime, that he had appeared at an entertainment dressed in black, although it was on the funeral of a female ; and compares him to a fury whose presence spread dismay among the assembly. The guests were sometimes supplied with these robes by the master of the house. The sandals were taken off, lest they should soil the costly cushions ; and the feet were covered with slippers, or not unfrequently left naked.

Etiquette.

The etiquette of courts is generally sufficiently rigid ; but in Spain it was carried to such an extent as to make kings martyrs to its observance, as was the case with Philip III. The king being one day gravely seated by a chimney, where the fire-maker of the

court had kindled so great a quantity of wood, that the monarch had like to have been suffocated with heat, his grandeur would not suffer him to rise from the chair to call for help; the officers in waiting were not within call, and the domestics could not presume to enter the apartment, because it was against the etiquette. At last, the Marquess de Pobat appeared, and the king ordered him to damp the fire; but he excused himself, alleging that he was forbidden by the etiquette to perform such a function, for which the Duke d'Usseda ought to be called upon, as it was his business. The Duke was gone out, the fire burned fiercer, and the king endured it, rather than derogate from his dignity; but his blood was heated to such a degree that an erysipelas broke out in his head the next day, which being succeeded by a violent fever, carried him off.

Ruffs.

The ruff was a fashionable ornament for the lady's neck: it was made of plaited lawn, or some other material of linen, and was sometimes worn by both sexes. The effeminacy of a man's ruff being nicely plaited, is well ridiculed by Beaumont and Fletcher.

'For how ridiculous were it to have death come,

And take a fellow pinn'd up like a mistress!
About his neck a ruff, like a pinch'd lanthorn,
Which school-boys made in winter.'

The ruff was, however, worn both by divines and lawyers, until it was thrown out of fashion by Mrs. Turner, one of the accomplices in the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, who was executed in one; when they sunk into entire disuse.

When ruffs were in fashion, a small stick or iron was used for plaiting them, called a poking stick. Stow tells us, that about the sixteenth year of Queen Elizabeth's reign, 'began the making the steel poking sticks; and until that time, all laundresses used setting sticks made of wood or bone.'

These ruffs, and the sticks for setting them, terribly inflamed the indignation of Stubbes, who, in his 'Anatom of Abuses,' not only ascribes the invention to the devil, but adds a tremendous story of that evil counsellor appearing to a young lady who was dissatisfied with her ruff, in the likeness of a handsome young man, to set it for her; 'after which,' saith this veritable legend, 'he destroyed her in the most wretched manner.'

Fashion Reversed.

When false hair was first introduced, it was to conceal baldness; and it became the principal study of the perruquier to imitate nature as closely as possible; but such have been the vagaries of fashion, that not only has false hair been worn by persons who had not the slightest occasion for it, but it even became so attractive, that hair-dressers thought they

had reached the acme of professional skill, when they could dress the natural hair to give it the appearance of a wig. That this was the case, we find from the following advertisement, copied from a volume in the Harleian collection, at the British Museum. Although there is no date, it appears to have been about the reign of Queen Anne.

'At the Cross Keys on Ludgate Hill, next the Rainbow Coffee House, lives a gentle woman that cuts and curls all ladies and gentlemen's HAIR extremely fine, and after the French fashion; she also dresses the hair as fine upon caps, which is the nicest way of dressing, and is not performed by all that profess cutting of hair. *She cuts and curls all boys' hair after so fine a manner, that you shall not know it to be their own hair.* She performs all the finest of any that now profess it; being so very much approved of, that her customers live in all parts of the town, and therefore, is ready to wait on all ladies that send for her, only desiring timely notice. She sells an extraordinary essence, that preserve and improves the growth of hair in a wonderful manner, to be used instead of orange butter or pomatum. Being well rubbed in at the roots of the hair every night, where it is thin, it gives life to the setting of the softest hair, and by the constant use of it, makes it grow stronger as well as thicker. Her times are every Monday for the country, and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings to wait on ladies in town; and is at home from two in the afternoon, all day on Saturdays, and is reasonable.'

Hat-Pulling.

English travellers through Holland and Germany generally complain that they find the inhabitants a great deal too civil; Westphalia, in particular, the courtesy of hat-pulling is said to prevail to a degree really painful. It is a settled point for all natives to make bows to strangers of almost every description; so that a traveller has little more to do in the considerable towns than to cover and uncover his head. Indeed the hats themselves sufficiently show the prevalence of the custom, being all of them squeezed into a long roll, on the right side, with the continual grip of civility. The civility of the Dutch and Westphalians, however, as Mr. Pratt well observes, is 'by no means confined to making you a passing bow; and, if it were, it is a slight tax upon a traveller to endure and return it.' If we were to judge, indeed, of this practice of hat-pulling, from one example mentioned by Mr. Pratt, there is more to admire than reprehend in it. 'During my visit to the Hague,' says he, 'I was at the playhouse, when the beauty of two ladies, both on travel, excited the attention of the audience more than the performance. But the obscurity and gloom of the Hague theatre, not clearly ascertaining that beauty, a great number of the spectators were anxious to see more of the truth, and accordingly ha

ranged themselves, after the play, in two mighty rows, as if by common consent, to see fair strangers pass from their box to their carriage. In itself, this set and determined re was certainly one of the rudenesses of civility; but in order to smooth away its rough edges, the passing meteors no sooner passed within the lines, than, as if by common consent also, every hat was taken off, and every head bowed respectfully to greet them. Even if the curiosity which beauty very usually excites did not carry, in some degree, its excuse along with it, it would have been impossible for that beauty to have been avoided. In the present instance it produced, as it should do, a blush of courtesy and consciousness as it passed along, not resenting, though not inviting, the homage which it drew.

Who is there,' adds Mr. Pratt, 'that has not passed but a single winter in London, must have seen the heroes of the box-party forming themselves into a phalanx, with bayonets on heads, and opera glasses at eyes, to come out of countenance, and out of the scene, perhaps amidst indecent observation, to preserve beauty and innocence? Let us not marvel then with the civilities that soften our disgust; nor even with public curiosity, when it is tempered with respect.'

Bucks of 1738.

'I went the other night,' says a fair correspondent of the *London Evening Post* for 1738, 'to the play, with an aunt of mine, and a married woman of the last age, though a formal. When we sat down in the front box, we found ourselves surrounded by a number of the strangest fellows I ever saw in my life. Some of them had those loose kind of coats on, which I have heard called *brascals*, with gold-laced hats slouched in the imitation of *stage coachmen*; others, being *grooms*, had dirty *boots* and *spurs*, black *caps* on, and long whips in their hands; a third sort wore scanty frocks, little by hats put on one side, and clubs in their hands. My aunt whispered me, she never saw such a set of slovenly unmannerly fellows sent to keep places in her life; when, to my great surprise, she saw those fellows, at the end of the act, pay the boxkeeper for their places.'

Liveries.

As said by some heraldic authors, that it was anciently the custom to take the livery from the colour of the field in the family arms, and the appendages from the bearings.

There was some propriety in the custom, and it denoted particular families. It was customary so to clothe retainers. As the number of heraldic colours is very limited, *or*, *argent*, *vert*, *azure*, *purpure*, *sable*, these five each comprise all those tints that are nearest to them. In Scottish heraldry

there are two other hues, *sanguine* (orange red) and *murrey* (dark red). But many of our most ancient families do not take the coats from the field, but from the bearings. Scarlet is not uncommonly used for hunting parties, for outriders, postillions, &c. Our modern gentry pay no regard to old rules, but choose liveries after their own or their ladies' fancies. Several foreign courts, too, disregard them. The German Emperors did not, for their field is *or*, charged with a black eagle, now the Austrian.

The Sword.

One of the most reprehensible appendages to the dress of a gentleman in former times, was the sword. To even the most wellbred man it was an incumbrance; but dangling by the side of an awkward person, it became equally troublesome to himself, and intolerable to his neighbours. As a dangerous weapon ready to be resorted to on every sudden quarrel, the wearing of it was still more objectionable; and as soon as society amongst us became so far civilized as to yield greater respect to the obligations of law and humanity, than to the impulses of passion and caprice, its proscription became a matter of almost necessary consequence.

The first prohibition of swords which we find on record, extended only to that honourable set of gentlemen, cycloped footmen, who were supposed, and doubtless with some reason, to have displayed a considerable degree of presumption in aping their masters in the use of them. In 1701, the Earl Marshal issued an order, 'that no footman attending any of the nobility or gentry of his majesty's realms, shall wear any sword, hanger, bayonet, or such other like offensive weapon, during such time as they or any of them shall reside or be within the cities of London and Westminster,' &c. After this interdict, the sword was usually supplied by 'a porter's staff, with a large silver handle;' though more than a century has since elapsed, we find this staff still the distinguishing appendage of the party-coloured tribe.

It was not till about 1730 that the wearing of swords began to be voluntarily laid aside by gentlemen of fashion; and not till fifty years later that the custom could be said to be generally exploded. 'Instead of swords,' says a periodical paper of 1731, 'the polite young gentlemen at the court end of the town now carry large oak sticks with great heads, and ugly faces carved thereon.' A generation later, a competition arose between short and long walking sticks. 'Do not some of us,' says a satirist of the day, 'strut about with walking sticks, as long as leaping poles, as if we were pioneers to the troop of Hickerry cutters; or else with a yard of varnished cane, scraped taper, and bound at one end with wax thread, and the other end tipped with a neat turned ivory head, as big as a silver penny, which switch we hug under our arms so jemmy? Could our forefathers be such

fools? Like enough, faith; and as we are but twigs of the same trunk, we scorn to degenerate from our ancestors.'

Introducing at Court.

Dr. Misaurin, a practitioner of some note in the reign of George II., was on very familiar terms with several noblemen of the first rank, and among others the Duke of Montague, of facetious memory. One day his grace observed to the doctor, that 'he wondered so celebrated a physician had never been introduced at St. James's.' The doctor snapt at the bait, and said he would take it as a great honour if his grace would introduce him. The duke consented to his request, and the doctor consulted him with regard to his dress. His grace advised him, by all means, to make his first appearance in a suit of black velvet, as it would be every way suitable to his character, and to the occasion. A suit of black velvet was accordingly procured for the doctor, while the duke, on his part, decked himself out in an enormous full-dressed periwig, in which near a pound of powder was diffused. The duke, who took care to be first at the Levee Room, as soon as he perceived the doctor enter, ran up to him, and overwhelmed him with powder and embraces, exclaiming ever and anon as he shook the powder from his curls, 'How happy am I, my dear doctor, to have this opportunity of introducing you to the king!' The doctor hummed and ha'd. 'But my coat, my lord, I shall be like a miller.' The duke, however, did not desist, shaking his head, and complimenting the doctor, till he had discharged at least three-fourths of the powder upon the black velvet suit. His grace then introduced him to the king, who was ready to burst his sides with laughing, the doctor being more engaged with wiping his clothes, than making his obeisance.

Queen Charlotte.

When the late Queen Charlotte landed in England, from a laudable feeling of respect for the women of her adopted country, she appeared in the dress which was then most in vogue among the ladies of Britain. She was habited in a gold brocade with a white ground; had a stomacher ornamented with diamonds (one of the most elegant ornaments, perhaps, ever worn by ladies), and a fly cap with richly laced lappets.

Ranelagh Mob Caps.

In 1762, the fashionable head-dress consisted of a piece of gauze, spider-net, catgut, or Leicester web, &c., which was folded about the head, then crossed under the chin, and brought back to fasten behind, the two ends hanging down like a pair of pigeons' tails. The fashion, strange as it may appear, was copied from the market women of Covent

Garden, being a very exact imitation of their silk handkerchiefs tied over the ears, rolled about their throats, and then pinned up to the nape of their necks. A Mrs. Jane Douglas, a lady of rather questionable reputation, who resided in the vicinity of the markets, was the first person *out of it* who made a Scotch lawn double neckhandkerchief, into the mob above described; and appearing with it at Ranelagh, it met there so many admirers among the highest and the purest of the fashionable world, that it immediately became the reigning mode. As a contemporary writer, with witty gravity, observes, 'the fashion flew abroad upon the wings of whim; and, to use the words of Schiophius, instantly spread itself over the face of the land.'

Umbrellas.

In the *Female Tatler*, of the 12th of December, 1709, we meet with the following advertisement; 'The young gentleman belonging to the Custom House, that for fear of rain, borrowed the umbrella at Wills' coffee-house in Cornhill, *of the mistress*, hereby advertised, that to be dry from head to foot on the like occasion, he shall be well come to the *maid's pattens*.' It would seem from the satire conveyed in this notice, that this useful invention had at first been considered as too effeminate for men.

Duchess of Devonshire.

To no person was the improved appearance in female costume, during the last reign, so much indebted, as to Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, who, on her first presentation at court, was denominated the 'new grace.' At this period the rage of dress was more prevalent than at present, though it took a different direction. It is true that we had abolished the starched ruff, the stiff brocade and the high crested battlements, that literally served for a breastwork, and rendered beautiful at the court of the Tudors like a maiden fortification; yet we then had distortions and extravagances in female costume, which were equally unnatural and ridiculous. No sooner, however, did the Duchess of Devonshire appear in the world of fashion, than simplicity began to prevail; and although Addison says 'there is not so variable a thing in nature as a lady's head-dress,' yet had he lived in our days, he would have seen how the excellence of ornament has been gradually curtailed, until a modern head-dress has been of length made to affect all the simplicity of the ancient statues.

The fashions were now set by this lady: the apron, the gown, and the cap in vogue, were all Devonshire, being closely copied from those worn, or supposed to be worn, by the duchess. The bellhoop, and the apparatus of whalebone, which had continued from the times of the Stuarts, to that of George III., and which were so injurious to health, were

polished; the female form became less enlivened, and consequently more natural and more elegant.

Bishop of Durham.

The Bishop of Durham has certain lay privileges, which other bishops have not; but I doubt whether the following can be ranked among the number. In 1722, there was a grand review of troops by the king, and among other distinguished personages in his majesty's train, there appeared, say the annals of the day, the Bishop of Durham on horseback, 'in a lay habit of purple, with jackboots and his hat cocked, and a black wig tied behind, like a military officer.'

Muffs.

When muffs were first introduced, which at least before the year 1700, they were valued very much in shape and materials, like those of the present day. What would a fashionable belle say to a furrier who should offer her one for sale, made of a leopard's skin? Yet such were worn in 1702.

Duchess of Gordon.

the pursuits and manners which fashion prescribes, have a powerful influence on society, particularly in high life, it is always probable that it should have a proper direction.

Many a lady of rank has been able to benefit her country, by giving a new stimulus to its patriotism, or to its commerce; as reserved for Jane, Duchess of Gordon, not only to do this, but also to render a most essential service to society, by diverting our eyes from fashion from the gaming table, and making them more social and more domestic. Grace becoming much attached to music, as played by Neil Gow and his band, and observing how much they had effected the wild vivacity of the highland dance without materially deviating from its character, she determined to attempt a corresponding improvement in dancing. The character of this delightful exercise, as patronized by the Duchess of Gordon, was ease and negligence, correctness without stiffness, grace and elegance without pomp or ostentation. This amusement, under the auspices of her Grace, became extremely popular; and by occupying the time formerly too often bestowed on very ruinous speculations, produced a change of great importance in the fashionable world.

Duchess of Gordon was the first who introduced forward music and dancing at routs, as entrenched on the province of gammonymusk, was heard instead of the waltz; 'Lough Erich Side,' occupied the time hitherto bestowed on *vingt-un*; and strathspeys, succeeded faro and *le noir*; and loo and speculation, were

abandoned for country dances. If the glow of hilarity tends more to beauty than anxiety or avarice; if a fine young woman appears to more advantage in mixing in the animating dance, than with her whole soul absorbed in a rubber at whist; if active exercise be better than sedentary employment; and if it be better to enjoy innocent pleasure, than to lose sums that may involve and embarrass families; then is dancing so far superior to gaming, and the person who has substituted so delightful a recreation, in the place of a pernicious pursuit, has produced a most important and beneficial change in society.

Dutch Fondness for Buttons.

The Dutch, even the higher classes of them, are remarkable for the profusion of buttons with which their dresses are covered, four being employed where an Englishman would be content with one, and each button being a third part larger than an English crown piece, and generally of solid silver. One whimsical fellow, who was master of a fishing smack, used to pride himself on wearing a suit of coarse blue baize or serge, the coat of which was buttoned with Zealand rix-dollars, the waistcoat with florins, the trousers with schellings, the waistband and flaps with pieces of thirty stivers (half-a-crown). His check shirt, moreover, had for buttons dublikys (silver two-pences); his shoes were fastened by twenty-eight stiver pieces cut into clasps; and the band of his hat was fixed by a large guilder in front, which hat was in itself a curiosity, being folded into three corners, in the way that grocers make up their goods into large bags of white brown paper—

'Fine by degrees, and whimsically less.'

Caprice.

The English have always been proverbial for their caprice in dress; and Lucas de Heere, who represented an Englishman in a state of nudity, with cloth and shears near him, yet at a loss what to do with them, justly ridiculed the national foible.

The Italians have a story which formed, in all probability, the basis of De Heere's jest. A man, they say, who was supposed to be an idiot, ran about the streets naked, carrying a piece of cloth upon his shoulders. When he was asked why he did not dress himself, since he had the materials? he replied, 'Because I wait to see in what manner the fashions will end.'

Tattooing.

Among the various modes adopted by rude and civilized people to adorn their persons, none is more singular than that of disfiguring the face and other parts of the body by tattooing, a practice now confined entirely to uncivilized states, although less than twenty cen-

turies ago it was a favourite custom of the Britons. At an early age the outlines of animals were impressed with pointed instruments on the skin, a strong infusion of wood was rubbed into the punctures, and the figures expanding with the growth of the body, retained their original appearance through life. The Briton was even vain of this hideous ornament; and in order to exhibit it in the sight of his enemies, he was careful to throw off his clothes in the day of battle.

Among the American Indians, tattooing is said to be performed without giving much pain, and often serves for an historical memoir of the life of the individual, as well as an ornament to his person. In the year 1742, a veteran warrior of the Lenape nation, and Monsey tribe, renowned among his own people for his bravery and prowess, and equally dreaded by their enemies, joined the Christian Indians. This man, who was then at an advanced age, had a most striking appearance, and could not be viewed without astonishment. Besides that his body was full of scars, where he had been struck and pierced by the arrows of the enemy; there was not a spot to be seen, on that part of it which was exposed to view, but what was tattooed over with some drawing relative to his achievements. On his whole face, neck, shoulders, arms, thighs, and legs, as well as on his breast and back, were represented scenes of the various actions and engagements he had been in; in short, the whole of his history was there depicted, and it was such, that all who heard it, thought it could never be surpassed by man.

In the island of Formosa this pomp of skin-painting is not permitted to everyone, but merely to those who, according to the decision of those persons most respected in the neighbourhood, have signalized themselves by some bold adventure, or excel by their agility, their force, or their address in hunting.

The Emperor Paul of Russia.

Of all the vexatious, absurd, and tyrannical acts of the Emperor Paul of Russia, none were so obnoxious to his subjects as his sumptuary regulations respecting dress. Every day some new alteration; and in order, perhaps, to mark his enmity for the moment towards any country, he would forbid his subjects from the most trivial imitation of its costume.

One day he would prohibit round hats, and that at so short a notice, that all the hatters in St. Petersburg could not supply one-tenth part of the cocked hats that were necessary, and were, therefore, compelled to parade the streets in their round hats, the brims of which were carefully stitched up triangularly. The next order was, perhaps, to strip your coats of their capes; and this was followed by a decree against the lappets. Neckcloths were next forbidden, and dress stocks with buckles substituted; then comes an order for long flaps to your waistcoats, the abolition of strings to your breeches or pantaloons, and

the exchanging of your yellow jockey boot for *bottes à la militaire*; buckles to your shoes declared indispensable; crops no longer permitted, only long tails and bags.

In short, so many of these orders were issued, and with such rapidity, that a Russian carrying on a very extensive iron foundry, principally conducted by English clerks and workmen, had nearly all of them arrested and sent to prison in one day, for contempt in not complying with a regulation of his Imperial Majesty, of which most of them had never heard.

The iron founder had sent his foreman to the governor-general on some business, and the man, in his hurry, going in a round hat, was detained. As his stay created some uneasiness, a clerk was sent to inquire for him, but he was arrested on his way for wearing neckcloth, and strings to his sleeves. This caused still greater alarm, and others of the workmen were dispatched, to the number six or seven, who were all taken up by the police, for some informality in their dress. At length the cause of their detention was discovered, and the principal was obliged to get into his carriage, with the blinds up, drive to the Monmouth Street of St. Petersburg, dress himself in a full dress suit, with bag and solitaire, wait upon the governor-general at the head of the police, and exert all his interest to get his men released, a task effected without great difficulty.

Hair Powder.

Hair powder was first introduced by ballad singers at the Fair of St. Germaine, in the year 1614; and it was long before it became adopted as a fashionable ornament. In the beginning of the reign of George I., only the ladies of rank wore powder in their hair, and they were laughed at for their singularity, and at the coronation of George the Second there were only two hair-dressers in London. How rapidly dressing the hair and wearing powder must have increased, we find from the calculations made by Mr. Pitt, in 1795, when he proposed the hair-powder tax; it was then estimated that there were in Great Britain fifty thousand hair-dressers; that the flour they consumed annually in hair powder, was to the value of £1,250,000; and that the number of persons wearing it, amounted to 200,000, so that supposing a tax of one guinea a head laid on, it would yield £200,000 annuum. The produce, however, fell far short of this sum, and has constantly decreased. In the first year of the tax, 1795, it only produced £187,085; and in 1803, it had sunk to £44,852.

Pennant.

Among the eccentricities of Mr. Pennant the tourist, was an inveterate antipathy to a wig, which he could with difficulty support at any time; but when reason yielded

ine, he was sure to seize the one nearest in, and throw it into the fire. Dining once

Chester with an officer who wore a wig, r. Pennant became half seas over; a friend at was in company, however, carefully iced himself between Pennant and the officer, to prevent mischief, but after much tience, and many a wistful look, Pennant, last, started up, seized the wig, and threw on the burning coals. It was in flames in a moment, and so was the officer, who ran to sword. Downstairs ran Pennant, and the officer after him, through all the streets of Chester: but Pennant, from his superior wledge of topography, escaped. This adventure was afterwards called Pennant's Tour ough Chester.

Marquess of Granby.

The Marquis of Granby, who so distinguished himself in the wars of George the second, having returned from Germany on ent business, travelled with all expedition London. On his arrival, he found the g was at Windsor, whither he proceeded his travelling dress. On reaching the ele, and desiring to be instantly admitted his majesty, a lord in waiting, neatly ssed, and perfumed very highly, lisped and pered like a boarding-school miss, that he ed the noble marquess did not mean to go the royal presence in so improper a habit, ing, 'pon my honour, my lord, you look e like a groom than a gentleman.' 'Stand e, you nondescript,' said the general, 'and soldier present himself to his sovereign, if the king finds fault with me, why, I will fool, and dress like yourself.'

Politeness.

hen Sir William Johnson returned the e of a negro who had bowed to him, he reminded that he had done what was unfashionable. 'Perhaps so,' said Sir iam, 'but I would not be outdone in good ivers by a negro.'

similar anecdote is related of Pope Cle- XIV. (Ganganelli). When he ascended papal chair, the ambassadors of the al states represented at his court, waited in with their congratulations. When were introduced and bowed, he returned ompliment by bowing also, on which the er of the ceremonies told his highness he should not have returned their salute. I beg your pardon,' said the good pontiff, ive not been Pope long enough to forget manners.'

Cross Garters.

fashion once prevailed in England, of ng the garters crossed on the legs. In spears's time, this fashion was still ed; and Olivia's detestation of it arose probably from its being thought foppish, in *Twelfth Night*, it is said, 'He will

come to her in yellow stockings, and 'tis a colour she abhors; and cross-gartered, a fashion she detests.'

Yellow stockings, however, were then in high fashion; and so, no doubt, were cross garters, if we may judge from a passage in Beaumont and Fletcher's *Woman Hater*:

'Ev'n all the valiant stomachs of the court,
All short-cloak'd knights, and all cross-gartered gentlemen,

All pump and pantofle, all foot cloth riders,' &c.

Mixed Costume.

Before the intercourse of different nations was so intimate as it is at present, each had a costume peculiar to itself; but now the fashions are so much blended, that it is difficult to say what is really national or foreign. In no country is this diversity more remarkable than in France, which once ranked it amonst its greatest triumphs, to dictate modes of dress to the rest of Europe.

'Turk's pantaloons, a Dutchman's stocking,
The Prussian hat all martial cocking,
Hungarian cravat round the throat,
The Roman wig, an English coat,
With strutting air, and slender shape,
Compose a Paris beau, or ape;
Whence it appears, without the least finessing,
The world has join'd to give the French a
dressing.'

Fashions in Language.

In the beginning of the last century, the English ladies affected some very ridiculous barbarisms in our language, consisting principally of a most ungrateful use of contractions and ellipsis, with a copious sprinkling of cant terms and whimsical phrases. In a paper in the *Tatler*, we learn, that common speech was not only infected with these corruptions, but that they were adopted by popular writers, and proved highly injurious to the literary taste of the nation. This affectation of ease and familiarity was meant as a contrast to the formality of the preceding century, but was in truth a great degradation of the English language.

A Rebuke.

In vol. 1764 of the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, we have the following fashionable rebuke. A young squire of good family and fortune, who was much inclined to appear like a beau, made one at a festival where a large company of the nobility of both sexes were assembled. 'He came,' says the writer, 'clothed in a cote-hardy, after the fashion of Almayne (Germany), and having saluted the guests, he sat down to dinner, when a knight of great worship, well acquainted with his family, addressed himself to him, and requested to know what he had done with his fiddle, or the instrument of

music he professed to play upon. The young man assured him that he was totally ignorant of music. 'Then, sir,' said the knight, 'it is not fit you should derogate so much from the honour of your ancestors, as to counterfeit the array of a minstrel, without being able to supply his place. Those I have known of your family maintained their rank, and would have blushed to have appeared in such counterfeit disguisements.' The young gentleman took the rebuke in good part, retired from the company, gave the cote-hardy to his servant, and apparelling himself as became his station, returned to the company."

Custom-House Rudeness.

The Princess of Prussia having ordered some rich silks from Lyons, which paid a high duty at Stettin, the place of her residence, the custom-house officer rudely seized them, until the duties were paid. The princess, highly indignant at such an affront, desired the officer to bring the silks to her apartments. He did so, when the princess seized them, and giving the officer a few cuffs in the face, turned him out of doors. The proud and mortified man of excise, in a violent fit of resentment, presented a memorial to Frederick the Great, in which he complained bitterly of the dishonour put upon him in the execution of his office. The king having read the memorial, returned the following answer: 'Sir, the loss of the duties belongs to my account; the silks are to remain in the possession of the princess, the cuffs with him that received them. As to the supposed dishonour, I cancel it at the request of the complainant; but it is itself null, for the lily hand of a fair lady cannot possibly dishonour the face of a custom-house officer.

(Signed)

'FREDERIC.'

French Flattery.

The French court once carried its flattery so far, as to alter the gender of a substantive, in compliment to an infantine mistake of their Grand Monarque. The word *carosse*, a coach, was originally feminine; but when M. Menage published his 'Dictionnaire Etymologique,' he gave it as avowedly masculine, but not without remarking, that it had been formerly feminine. This revolution as to the gender of a word, arose from a trivial grammatical error. Louis XIV. came to the throne in 1643, when he was about five years of age. A short time afterwards, on inquiring for his coach, he happened to confound the gender of it by calling out, 'Où est *mon carosse*?' This was sufficient to stamp the word *carosse* masculine, of which gender it has ever since continued. Such a puerile error is not to be wondered at; but that a whole nation should adopt a change of gender, in compliment to it, is an absurdity of no common magnitude.

In the reign of the same prince a very alarming little revolution took place in the

application of an epithet in the French language. It had become a ruling fashion to give to every thing great, the term *gros*, as 'un *gros plaisir*,' 'une *grosse qualité*,' 'une *grosse beauté*.' The king took an occasion to express his dislike to these expressions, because, in fact, he was frightened lest he who had been for some time styled Louis le Grand should exchange his title for that of a second Louis le Gros. M. Boileau, however, upon perceiving the king's alarm, had the address to observe how impossible it was for the world even to think of Louis le Gros, in the reign of Louis le Grand. The royal mind was thus quieted, the fashion had its course, and that course was soon run.

Dandy of Fifty Years ago

A newspaper of 1770, gives the following description of a fop of that period: 'A few days ago a macaroni made his appearance in the Assembly Rooms at Whitehaven, dressed in a mixed silk coat, pink satin waistcoat and breeches covered with an elegant silver net, white silk stockings with pink clocks, pink satin shoes, and large pearl buckles; a mushroom coloured stock, covered with fine point lace, hair dressed remarkably high, and stuck full of pearl pins.'

Fashionable Rivals.

Sir Lambert Blackwell, and the Duke of St. Albans, strove which could outshine each other in parade and splendour. On one occasion, the duke being engaged to dine with the knight, found him dressed in a most superb and splendid brocade of Lyons manufacture. When Sir Lambert a short time afterwards returned the visit, the duke had taken care to provide a suit of clothes of the same costly materials for the servant who waited behind his chair.

Beau Nash.

Beau Nash, when master of the ceremonies at Bath, issued an edict, that no person should wear a sword in that city, except such as were not entitled to wear one any where else. The reason for making this regulation was, that Nash having thrown a gentleman into one of the baths, was severely chastised and got a wound in the sword arm, the effects of which he felt for the remainder of his life.

The Quakers.

Fox, the founder of Quakerism, was in the habit of attending public worship at the established church. When the preacher uttered sentiments of which he disapproved, he would most solemnly put on his broad brimmed hat, and take it off again whenever a more welcome strain of doctrine occurred.

If he had sat long with his hat on, and the ill-sounding propositions or fulminations continued, he would rise slowly, and silently walk out. Thus it appears that it was for purposes of habitual protest that the Quakers first learned to sit in places of worship with their hats on.

Jewels.

A mandarin, who took much pride in appearing most splendidly dressed, with a number of jewels on every part of his robe, was accosted by an old Bonze, who following him through several streets, and bowing often to the ground, thanked him for his jewels. 'What does the man mean?' cried the mandarin: 'friend, I never gave thee any of my jewels.' 'No,' replied the other, 'but you have let me look at them, and that is all the use you can make of them yourself; so there is no difference between us, except that you have the trouble of watching them, and that is an employment I do not want.'

Jewels made a part of the ornaments with which the Jews, Greeks, and Romans, especially their ladies of distinction, adorned themselves. So prodigious indeed was the extravagance of the Roman ladies in this particular, that Pliny the elder says, he saw Lollio Paulina decked out in jewels worth, according to Dr. Arbuthnot's calculation, £322,916 13s. 4d. of our money. It is necessary, however, to remark, that precious stones amongst the Romans, and the ancients generally, were much scarcer, and consequently much dearer, than amongst us, since a commerce has been opened with the Indies.

Of jewels, diamonds are the most expensive and the most fashionable, and there has been a great struggle among sovereigns to get possession of the largest and most valuable. The number of known diamonds of large size, that is, of fifty-six carats and upwards, does not exceed sixteen, only two of which are in England; one, the Piggot diamond, worth £16,000, and another, in the possession of the Hornby family, valued at £8000. Holland has but one, which is worth upwards of £10,000. France has two; the largest was bought by the Duke of Orleans, during the regency, and hence called the regency diamond, the value of which is £150,000. Germany has one diamond worth £155,600. The Great Mogul has one of a rose colour, valued at £25,000. The two principal diamonds belonging to Persia are called, in the hyperbolic language of the East, 'The Mountain of splendour' and 'The Sea of Glory;' one is worth £145,000, and the other £35,000.

The Portuguese royal family have two diamonds, one of which is still uncut; and if we may credit the Portuguese accounts, is the largest ever found; it is said to weigh 1680 carats; and if it should lose half its weight in cutting, it would be worth £5,644,800. There is a small part of it broken off, which was taken by the man who found it, who, ignorant what sort of stone it was, struck it with a

hammer on an anvil; it was found in Brazil. The other diamond, in possession of the house of Braganza, is worth £3,698,000. Russia is rich in these gems; its largest is the famous diamond which adorned the sceptre of the Empress Catherine II. of Russia, under the eagle at the top; it is worth nearly five millions sterling. This diamond was one of the eyes of the idol at Malabar, called 'Scheringham.' A French grenadier, who had deserted from the Indian service, contrived to become one of the priests of that idol, which he had thus an opportunity of robbing of its eye. He immediately fled to Madras, where he sold the diamond to the captain of a ship for 20,000 rupees. A Jew next purchased it for £17,000 or £18,000; and after passing through several hands, it was purchased for the Empress of Russia for 135,417 guineas.

Pearls are another fashionable ornament of female dress, and some of them are of immense value. The most remarkable of modern pearls is one in the Spanish treasury, called 'The Pilgrim.' It was in the possession of a merchant who had paid a hundred thousand crowns for it. When he went to offer it for sale to Philip IV., the king said, 'How could you venture to give so much for a pearl?' 'Sire,' replied the merchant, 'I knew there was a King of Spain in the world.' This well-turned compliment pleased Philip, who gave the merchant his own price for it immediately.

Large Feet.

Formerly, in France, a great foot was much esteemed, and the length of the shoe, in the fourteenth century, was a mark of distinction. The shoes of a prince were two feet and a half long; those of a baron, two feet; those of a knight, eighteen inches long, from whence arose the expression, '*Il est sur un grand pied dans le monde.*'

Rouge.

The French ladies, with their general and excessive use of rouge, appear all like members of the same family. The first time, says a traveller, that I saw the ladies arranged in their boxes of the opera at Paris, I could compare them to nothing but a bed of piony in a garden.

Nicety of Dress.

Too great attention to nicety in dress is undoubtedly a proof of a little mind; and notwithstanding the compliment paid by Cicero to the talents and understanding of Hortensius, it is difficult not to consider him a very weak or very litigious man, when he summoned a person before the judges, because he had accidentally ruffled the order and plaits of his gown. Macrobius, however, seems sensible of this frivolity in Hortensius, whom he thus describes: 'Hortensius was pro-

fessedly soft and effeminate, and made all decency to consist in outward show. He was vastly finical in his dress, and to adjust it the better, he employed a looking-glass, by the assistance of which he so disposed his gown that the plaits did not fall at random, but were arranged very carefully by means of a knot, and the fold or lappet falling or flowing down, with art went round the knot at his side.' It was for deranging this elaborate dress that an unconscious colleague was summoned before a Roman tribunal.

Pride.

Diogenes being at Olympia, saw at that celebrated festival some young men of Rhodes arrayed most magnificently. Smiling, he exclaimed, 'This is pride.' Afterwards meeting with some Lacedemonians in a mean and sordid dress, he said, 'And this also is pride.'

Lord Strange.

Lord Strange, who was excessively fond of French fashions, was one of a committee of the House of Commons, appointed to consider a petition of the Spitalfields weavers. After the examination of the witnesses was over, his lordship turned round to old Mr. Crumpler, who had been a manufacturer for forty years, and in a pleasant way made several inquiries, which were answered with much civility. At last, taking up the skirt of his velvet coat, he said, 'Pray, Mr. Crumpler, tell me why you cannot make such as this in England? you see, you obliged me to smuggle, to fly from home, to be decently dressed.' The old man examined the cloth, praised its beauty, and then bowing, said, 'I am glad your lordship's tailor has put that piece into your hands, for it is one of the best I ever made for him, though I have made many thousand yards of French velvet.' 'Have you so?' said his lordship, 'then I'll be an Englishman in future.'

French Versatility.

In the summer of 1775, the queen of France being dressed in a brown lute-string, the king good-humouredly observed it was '*couleur de puce*,' the colour of fleas. Instantly every lady must be dressed in a lute-string of a flea colour. The mania was caught by the men, and the dyers in vain exhausted themselves to supply the hourly demand. They distinguished between an old and a young flea, and subdivided even the shades of the body of the insect, every part being marked by varying shades of this colour. This prevailing tint promised to be the fashion for the winter. The vendors of silks, however, found it would be injurious to their trade, and therefore presented new satins to her majesty, who having chosen one of ash colour, monsieur remarked that it was the colour of her majesty's hair. Immediately the fleas ceased to be favourites,

and all were eager to be dressed in the colour of the queen's hair. Servants were sent on at the moment, from Fontainebleau to Paris, to purchase velvets, raseens, and cloth of this colour. The current price in the morning had been forty livres per ell, and it rose towards the evening to eighty or ninety livres. Such was the continued demand, that some of her majesty's hair was actually obtained by bribery, and sent to the Gobelins, to Lyons, and other manufactories, that the exact shade might be caught.

Coronation of Richard III.

From the wardrobe account of the year 1483, which contains the appointment of the coronation of Richard III., it would appear that upon solemn occasions it was the custom for the monarch to robe and dress the whole court, judges, officers, ladies, and their attendants. This document displays the habit of the times, the state of manufactures, and the costume then fashionable. It appears that the woollen and silk branches must have been in a highly improved state; embroidery, both woven and worked with a needle, orris weaving, fringe making, damasking, dyeing, and many other species of works, dependent upon taste and genius, must also have flourished very much. The Duke of Buckingham, Catesby, and six other lords and knights, had, by the king's high command, and of his especial gift, delivered to them cloths of gold and silver velvet, peculiarly superb. The list of articles given out by Piers Courteys, the king's 'wardrober,' on this occasion, exhibits a splendid variety; one item is of 'diver stuffs, delivered for the use of Lorde Edward, son of the late kynge, Edward the Fourth, and of his Hrexemen.'

Spurs.

Among the absurdities of fashion, it would be difficult to find one more ridiculous than that of gentlemen wearing spurs on their boots, as part of their walking dress. The folly is, however, at least two centuries old. Ben Jonson alludes to it in the *Alchymist*, in the scene where Subtle advises Abel Drugge to place a loadstone under his threshold.

'To draw in the gallants that wear spurs.'

Spurs were for a long time a favourite article of finery in the morning dress of the man of fashion. They were frequently gilt, as appears from 'Wit's Recreations':

'As Battus believed for simple truth,

That yonder gilt spruce and velvet youth.

Was some great personage.'

It was also very fashionable to have the spurs so made as to rattle or jingle when the wearer moved; allusion to which is made by several of the writers of the sixteenth century. Bishop Earle, in his '*Microcosmographia*,' describing the character of an idle gallant, says, 'He takes great delight in his walk to hear his spurs jingle;' and Ben Jonson, in his comedy

'Every Man out of Humour,' in reference to the same fashion, has,

'C. How the sound of the spur?

'F. O, yes! it's your only humour now tant, sir; a good jingle, a good jingle.'

The fashion was, however, subject to an post, that of an exaction upon all persons who wore boots and spurs on entering a thedral. This fine, which was called spur oney, was so peremptorily levied, that the ntlemen of the choir would threaten imisonment all night to those who refused em the money.

In the visitations of 1598, we find this cus- a censured in the following presentment: Ve think it a very necessary thinge that ery quorister should bring with him to urch a Testament in English, and torne to ery chapter as it is dayly read, or some her good and godlye prayer-book, rather an spend their tyme in talk, and hunting er *spurr money*, whereon they set their tole minds, and do often abuse divers if they not bestow somewhat on them.'

Morning Gowns.

From the sublime to the ridiculous is but a step, said Bonaparte; and so it is in fashion, where persons who are able to give *à la ton*, may pass from the livery of satin velvet and gold lace to a plain gown of camlet. There was once a long controversy in the newspapers on the antiquity of morning-gowns; whether it terminated is not material, but it is certain that in the early part of the eighteenth century, all the beaux that used to break- t at the coffee-house in the vicinity of : iras of court, appeared in this elegant shabille, which was carelessly confined by ash of yellow, red, green, &c., according the taste of the wearer. This idle fashion I not worn out so recently as the reign of : late king.

There are many persons now alive who st recollect the amiable but eccentric Lord lmouth, and the singularity of his morning s, in which he would lounge in the Mall til it was time to go home to dinner. His s generally consisted of a pair of gaudy- ured breeches, faded; a soiled white tcoat, over which was thrown a sort of e great coat or morning gown, generally a brown colour. His hat and wig corre- nd-l with his drapery, and he always eared as if he had been walking in a ty road.

Scarlet Collars.

Some years ago, the people of Shelford, ir Nottingham, were much talked of among er neighbours for wearing red velvet collars heir coats. Every one wondered whence e strange fashion could have arisen; at th, the vicar, a sagacious and pious man, eared red that it proceeded from a cause as llar as lamentable. The tailor, who gave

the fashion to the village, was also the sexton : at Shelford is the burial vault of the Earls of Chesterfield; and from the coffins of the noble sleepers, Mr. Tailor and Sexton had cabbaged red velvet for the country round. The vicar wrote in terms of great horror and lamentation to the late earl, on the subject of this unhallowed depredation. The witty nobleman, however, administered but ghostly comfort to the vicar; his lordship exhorted him to moderate the excess of his sorrow, and to join rather with himself in admiring and commending the provident ingenuity of the tailor, for bringing into light and employing usefully what his ancestors and himself had consigned to eternal darkness and decay.

Pomatum.

The New Zealanders besmear their persons and hair with a mixture of fish oil and red earth; the English use bear's grease. Prior, in his 'Alma,' very happily alludes to the custom, when he says,

'Westward again the Indian fair,

Is nicely smear'd with fat of bear;

Before you see, you smell your toast:

The sweetest she who smells the most.'

Prior, in referring the use of fat of bear to the 'untutored Indian,' little dreamed that it would afterwards be used by the British fair; yet such is the case in our days, and we have seen bears advertised to be cut up, for the use of the ladies!

Haberdashers.

A *berdash* was a name anciently given in England to a sort of neck-dress, and a person who made or sold such neck-dresses was called a *berdasher*; hence the present name for these great ministers of fashion, haberdashers.

Duke of Buckingham.

The Duke of Buckingham, the favourite of James the First, was remarkable for the splendour of his household and the gaiety of his apparel. When he went to Paris in 1625, to bring over Henrietta Maria, betrothed to Charles the First, he exhibited the most luxurious magnificence. In the Harleian collection, there is an 'account of the vastly rich clothes of the Duke of Buckingham,' &c., on this occasion.

'His Grace hath,' says this account, 'for his body twenty-seven rich suits, embroidered and laced with silk and silver plushes; besides one rich white satin uncut velvet, set *all over* both suit and cloak with diamonds, the value whereof is thought to be four score thousand pounds, besides a feather made with great diamonds, with sword, girdle, hatbands, and spurs with diamonds, which suit his Grace intends to enter Paris with. Another rich suit of purple satin, embroidered all over with rich orient pearls; the cloak made after the

Spanish fashion, with all things suitable, the value whereof will be £20,000, and this is thought shall be for the wedding-day in Paris. His other suits are all as rich as invention can frame, or art fashion. His colours for the entrance are white pawtchett; and for the wedding, crimson and gold.'

The dresses of the Duke of Buckingham far outstrip everything of modern magnificence, unless, indeed, we except a coat, said to be occasionally worn on great state occasions by the Prince of Esterhazy, which is valued at £100,000. This prince is considered the richest subject in Europe, and in wardrobe, at least, it is presumed few sovereigns can compete with him.

The New Exchange.

The New Exchange, which, for more than a century and a half, was like Bond Street in our days, the grand emporium of fashion, was erected in the year 1609, and then consisted of seventy-six shops. When first opened it exhibited a splendid spectacle; most of the shops were furnished with a profusion of articles, equally new, fashionable, and costly, for the inspection of his majesty, James the First, who arrived there with his queen, the prince, the Duke of York, and the Princess Elizabeth, attended by many lords and ladies. The visit of the king, who changed its name from Salisbury Exchange to Britain's Bourse, conferred instant celebrity upon the fabric, so much so that it is said to have excited the jealousy of the Old Exchange in the city. How long the name of Britain's Bourse was retained does not appear, but it was succeeded by that of the New Exchange, which it retained as long as the old building stood.

In this magazine of fashion, and as Addison called it, 'hive of industry,' every article of dress, of ornament, and of furniture, was to be purchased. The persons who attended the shops were all females; and such was its celebrity, that no girl who came to town to rub off the rust which was supposed to adhere to provincial drapery, could be deemed properly equipped until she had passed through the hands of the various female artists of the New Exchange.

It is related that the wife of Richard Talbot, Lord Deputy of Ireland under James the Second, and titular Duchess of Tyrconnel, took her station in the New Exchange as a humble vendor of caps, ribands, &c. until she was discovered and otherwise provided for. She used to wear a white mask and a white dress, and was known by the name of the White Milliner.

Doiley's Warehouse.

Few shops in the metropolis have acquired so much fame as Doiley's warehouse, celebrated by the essayists and dramatists of the last century. Doiley, the original founder of the house, was one of the refugees after the

revocation of the edict of Nantes; and being a man of considerable ingenuity and enterprise, he formed a connexion with some persons in Spitalfields, and with their assistance invented, fabricated, and introduced a variety of stuffs, some of which were new, and all of which had not before been seen in this kingdom.

Doiley combined the different articles, silk and woollen, and connected them into such a variety of forms and patterns, that his shop became a mart of taste, and his manufactures when first issued, the very height of fashion. To this the Spectator alludes in one of his papers, when he says that 'if Doiley had not by his ingenious inventions enabled us to dress our wives and daughters in cheap stuffs, we should not have had the means to carry on the war.'

Fashions in Scotland.

On the invasion of Scotland by Agricola, huts made of the branches of trees, or loose stones piled together, were the habitations of the natives, and seats of stone their furniture; their dress was formed of the skins of animals, and these, with their mountain heat, formed their places of repose. In the reign of James the First, their apartments were small and gloomy; the only furniture in the hall of a great baron consisted of large standing tables, benches, and a cupboard, made chiefly of oak; they ate out of wooden dishes, drank out of wooden bowls, and used wooden or iron spoons. Silver was remarkably scarce, except in monasteries and cathedrals; and even pewter vessels were accounted rare and costly: so much so, that they were only used at Christmas and other festivals, and yet poor as they were, the country could not furnish them of its own manufacture. In the year 1430, eight dozen of pewter dishes, one hundred dozen of wooden cups, a basin and ewer, three saddles, a dozen skins of red leather, and five dozen ells of woollen cloth, were transported from London for the king's use. Fashions in dress, had, however, at this time made progress, and sumptuary laws were deemed necessary to restrain them.

In the middle of the fifteenth century James the Second of Scotland, established various sumptuary laws, for regulating dress. Among them was one, that advocates who pleaded for money in the Parliament, should have habits of green, of the fashion of 'tunekil' with open sleeves.

Another article of this law was, that 'no man living in a city or borough by merchandise, unless he be of the dignity of an alderman, bailiff, or belonging to the council of the borough, shall wear clothes of silk, or gown of scarlet; their wives and daughters shall be subject to the same regulations, and wear their heads short coverchiefs, with little hoods, as they are used in Flanders, England, and other countries; and that no woman shall wear lattices upon their gowns, nor tails of an improper length, nor furred underneath.'

except on holidays.' This law was evidently dictated by the pride of the great lords, to check the vanity of burghers, their wives and daughters, who were guilty of the rash presumption of dressing like lords and ladies.

By the same statute it was also ordained, that no woman should come to church or to market, with her face *mussalit*, that is, covered; but notwithstanding this law, the Scottish ladies are said to have continued unaltered during three reigns, as appears from satirical poem, written by Sir David Lyndey, who, alluding to this custom of the women, says;—

'But in kirk and market placis,
I think they shuld nocht hide their faces.'

Mourning was first introduced into Scotland on the death of Magdalene of France, queen of James V. : but fans for the ladies, and cork-heeled shoes for gentlemen, are mentioned at a much earlier period. Ostrich feathers for the head, and rosettes at the ears, were also fashionable in the fifteenth century.

The extravagance of the table in the reign of Queen Mary, required the restraint of a sumptuary law, which prohibited any, under the rank of an archbishop or earl, to have at one meal more than eight dishes; of an abbot, prior, or dean, above six; of a baron or freholder, above four; and of burgesses, above three. An exception, however, was made as to feasts at marriages, or those which were given to foreigners, where there was no other limitation but the means of the person who gave such entertainments.

An Englishman who visited Edinburgh in the year 1596, describing the manners and customs of the time, says. 'The husbandmen of Scotland, the servants, and almost all the country, did wear coarse cloth made at home of grey or sky colour, and flat blue caps, very bad. The merchants in cities were attired in English or French cloth of pale colour, or dyed black and blue. The gentlemen did wear English cloth or silk, or light stuffs, more or nothing adorned with silk lace, much with lace of silver or gold; and all followed at this time the French fashion, especially in court. Gentlewomen married, wore close upper bodies after the German manner; with large whalebone sleeves, after the French manner: short cloaks, like the Germans, French hoods, and large falling bands about their necks. The unmarried of all sorts did go bareheaded, and wear short cloaks, with most close linen sleeves on their arms, like the virgins of Germany. The inferior sort of citizens' wives, and the women of the country, did wear cloaks made of a coarse stuff, of two or three colours in chequerwork, vulgarly called *pladden*. To conclude, generally they would not at this time be attired after the English fashion in any sort; the men, especially at court, follow the French fashion; and the women, both in the city and country, as well in cloaks as naked, and also sleeves on the arms, follow the fashion of the women of Germany.'

When Charles the First, after his accession to the throne, made his public entrance into Edinburgh, he was received in a pompous manner by the magistrates, attended by no less than two hundred and sixty young citizens dressed in white satin doublets, black velvet breeches, and white silk stockings; and the streets through which he passed were hung with tapestry and carpets. It evidently appears by this, that the inhabitants of Edinburgh must have improved considerably in their dress, when so many of the citizens could afford to appear so splendidly apparelled.

From this time the effects of the union began to be felt, and the fashions of the English and the Scots became too nearly assimilated to need distinct descriptions.

Plaids.

Plaids, so long a favourite article of Scottish costume, once came under the censure of the town council of Edinburgh, who condemned them as a 'barbarous habit.' This was in the year 1637.

It appears to have been customary at that period for the females to wear plaids as an article of dress, which, for some unaccountable reason or other, had given offence to the magistrates, and occasioned their passing several acts against the practice. These having been little regarded by the ladies, the act of 1637 was published, in which the town council state, that 'such has been the impudencie of manie of them, that they have continued the forsaid barbarous habitte, and has added thairto the wearing of their gownes and petticoats about their heads and faces, so that the same is now become the ordinar habitte of all women within the citie, to the generall imputation of their sex, matrones not being able to be discerned from lowse living women, to their awne dishonour, and the scandal of the citie.'

The penalty attached to the infringement of this act, was to ladies of quality heavy fines and censure, and for the lower orders, fines and banishment. The act, however, notwithstanding the penalties annexed to its neglect, does not appear to have been much regarded. A traveller who writes from Edinburgh in the year 1729, says, 'I have been at several concerts of music, and must say, that I never saw in any nation an assembly of greater beauties than those I have seen at Edinburgh. The ladies dress as in England, with this difference, that when they go abroad, from the highest to the lowest, they wear a plaid which covers half of the face and body.'

Sir Charles Sedley.

Sir Charles Sedley was a very handsome man, and dressed in the most fashionable style of the age. Kynaston the actor was very like him, and so proud of the resemblance, that he got a suit of richly-laced clothes, exactly similar to one worn by Sir Charles, and ap-

peared in it in public. Sir Charles feeling indignant at being thus aped by a player, resolved to punish his vanity, and for this purpose got a person to accost Kynaston in the park, and salute him as the baronet. Kynaston instantly personated Sir Charles, until the stranger intentionally creating a quarrel, caned him severely. In vain Kynaston protested that he was not the person the gentleman took him for; the more he protested, the more was he chastised on the ground of his endeavouring to evade punishment by a falsehood.

When some of the actor's friends afterwards remonstrated with Sedley on his harsh treatment of an inoffensive man; 'Why,' said the baronet, 'the fellow has not suffered half so much in person, as I have done in reputation; for all the town believes that it was really myself who was thus publicly disgraced.'

Eastern Concealment.

The love of splendid dress which distinguishes the nations of the East, is particularly observable among the females of every rank. The wives of even the meanest labourers at Constantinople, wear occasionally brocade, rich furs, and gold or silver embroidery. Mr. Dallaway remarks, however, that though in the East the articles of females' habiliment are infinite, both as to cost and number, yet that change of fashion is adopted only for the head attire. In the streets of Constantinople the dress of the females consists universally of a *feredje* and *marahmah*. The former resembles a loose riding coat, with a large square cape covered with quilted silk, and hanging down low behind, made universally among the Turks of green cloth, and among Greeks and Armenians of brown or some other grave colour. The *marahmah* is formed by two pieces of muslin, one of which is tied under the chin, enveloping the head, and the other across the mouth and half the nose, admitting space enough for sight. Yellow boots are drawn over the feet, and thus equipped, a woman may meet the public eye without scandal. This dress is of very ancient invention; nor as long as concealment is the object required, can a better be invented.

Eastern Ease.

While Lord Macartney was at Batavia, on his way to China, he attended with his suite one of the public assemblies of the Dutch settlers, some of the customs at which amused the English not a little. When the ladies, most of whom were very magnificently dressed in gold and silver spangled muslin robes, found the heat disagreeable, they retired to free themselves from their stately habiliments, and returned without ceremony in a light and loose attire, in which they were scarcely recognisable by strangers. The gentlemen, too, followed the example, and throwing off their heavy and formal dresses, appeared in white jackets, some of which, indeed, were adorned

with diamond buttons; the more *elderly* gentlemen quitted their periwigs for night caps!

Republican Costume.

After the revolution in France, it became the fashion to have everything over which fashion predominates, of an antique cast. All that was not Greek was Roman; stately silken beds, massy sofas, worked tapestry, and gilt ornaments, were thrown aside as rude Gothic magnificence; every couch resembled that of Pericles, every chair those of Cicero; every wall was finished in arabesque, like the bath of Titus, and every table was upheld by Castor and Polluxes, and covered with Athenian busts and Etruscan vases. Among the ladies loose light drapery, naked arms, sandals, feet, golden chains, twisted tresses, all displayed a rigid conformity to the laws of republican costume. The most fashionable hair dresser of the day, in order to accommodate himself to the classical taste of his fair customers, was provided with a variety of antique busts as models, and when he waited on a lady, enquired if she chose to be dressed that day *à la Cleopatre*, *à la Diane*, *à la Psyche*, or *à la Niobe*. The fair Grecian being determined not to injure the contour of fine form by superfluous incumbrances, pocket were universally abandoned; and the inconvenience of being without them was obviated by sticking the fan in the belt, sliding in a flap purse of Morocco leather, only large enough to contain a few louis, at the side of the neck, and giving the snuff-box and pocket handkerchief to the care of some *cavaliere serviente*, who tendered them when required. All these contrivances, however, to supply the want of pockets, have been since superseded by that most useful invention, the *reticule*, which enables ladies to do not only without pockets, but without beaux.

The Fop of 1690.

In 1690, the well-known author of 'Sylvia,' John Evelyn, Esq., published a pamphlet entitled, 'Mundus Muliebris, or the Lady's Dressing-room unlocked, and her Toilet spread,' in which he admirably describes the prevailing fashions of the age, as to dress, manners, &c. 'The refined lady,' he says, 'expects her servants and humble admirers should court her in the forms and exercises of making love in fashion. In order to this, you must often treat her to the play, the park, and the music, present her at the raffle, follow her to Tunbridge at the season of drinking the waters, though you have no need of them yourself. You must improve all occasions of celebrating her shape, and how well the mode becomes her, though it be ne'er so fantastical and ridiculous; that she sings like an angel, dances like a goddess, and that you are charmed with her wit and beauty. Above all, you must be sure to find some fault or imper-

fection in all other ladies, and to laugh at the fops like yourself. With this a little practice will qualify you for the conversation and mystery of the ruelle, and if the whole morning be spent between the glass and the comb, that your peruke sit well, and cravat strings be adjusted as things of importance, with these and the like accomplishments you'll emerge a consummate beau, *Anglicè* a cockcomb. But the dancing-master will still be necessary to preserve your good mien, and fit you for the winter ball.

Foppery and Courage.

Foppery in dress is by no means a sure mark of either effeminacy or cowardice, and those who presume on such appearance, like all who judge merely from externals, will often be mistaken. The late Sir Alexander Schomberg, many years commander of the king's yacht, the *Dorset*, was, during the whole of a long life, a very great beau. When a young man he was one day walking down a fashionable street in London, and having taken out his pocket-handkerchief, which was highly perfumed, a couple of bucks, conceiving that an officer so perfumed was a very safe object of ridicule, followed him down the street, amusing themselves with sneers at him. Sir Alexander at length reached his lodging, and having knocked at the door, he called one of the gentlemen, and said, 'Sir, I perceive you have been much taken with the perfume of my handkerchief;' then taking it out with his left hand, he added, 'I request you to smell it closer,' at the same time twinging his nose, and flogging him with a cane, he concluded by informing him that he was Captain Schomberg, of the Royal Navy, very much at his service.

A somewhat similar circumstance occurred with the celebrated Archibald Hamilton Rowan. When this gentleman was young it was customary to wear a large bunch of rings at the knees, and Mr. Rowan was one day walking in the park, dressed to the extreme of the fashion. His dress was altogether so peculiar that he attracted considerable attention. Of this he took no notice, until two young fellows carried their remarks to insult Rowan, who at the time wore a sword, knowing the warmth of his temper, instantly seized and ran to a stranger, in whose care he placed it. He then proceeded to the two gentlemen, wrested a cane from the hands of one of them, and chastising them both very severely, gave them his card, and told them he was ready to yield them any other satisfaction they might require. Mr. Rowan then turned to the gentleman to whom he had resigned his sword, apologized for the liberty he had taken, but said he feared that he might lose his temper, and use a sword where a rod was more proper. It is scarcely necessary to add that Mr. Rowan dressed as he pleased ever after, without any person coming to call his taste into question.

Captain Faulkner, who was killed in the

celebrated action between the *Blanche* and *La Pique*, used to dress in an entire suit of tabinet uniform, and though he thus had the appearance of a fop, yet a braver man never drew a sword.

Royal Politeness.

The privilege of the family of De Courcy, Barons of Kinsale, to wear their hat in the king's presence, is well known, though not always exercised. Soon after the accession of George the Second to the throne, the then Lord Kinsale, who had just come to his title, was introduced at court with the usual ceremonies. Whether from mistake in etiquette or from pride, instead of just putting on his hat and immediately taking it off again, Lord Kinsale walked about the drawing-room for a considerable time with his hat on. The courtiers all stared, and the whole assembly was thrown into some embarrassment, when the king, noticing the circumstance, very politely went up to his lordship, and told him that he believed he was under some trivial mistake, for although he had an undoubted right to wear his hat before him, yet his lordship appeared to have forgotten that there were ladies in the room. Lord Kinsale instantly felt the rebuke, bowed, and took off his hat.

A rebuke not less happy nor less good-natured was given by Charles the Second to William Penn, when the sturdy Quaker kept on his hat on being presented to him. 'Friend Penn,' said the king, 'it is the custom of this court for only one person to be covered at a time,' and then his majesty took off his own hat.

Small Feet.

It is well known to be a custom among the Chinese women to stop by pressure the growth of the ankle, as well as the foot, from earliest infancy, so that ever after they do not walk, but totter on their heels. Some of the very lowest classes of the Chinese, of a race confined chiefly to the mountains and remote places, have not adopted this unnatural custom. But the females of this class are held by the rest in the utmost degree of contempt, and are employed only in the most menial domestic offices. Nay, so inveterate is the custom which gives pre-eminence to mutilated over perfect limbs, that if of two sisters otherwise in every respect equal one has been thus maimed, while nature has been suffered to take her own way in the other, the latter is considered as in an abject state, unworthy of associating with the rest of the family, and doomed to perpetual obscurity, and the drudgery of servitude.

In forming a conjecture as to the origin of so singular a fashion, it is not easy to conceive how it could have been as some suppose, an offspring of the jealousy and tyranny of the other sex. Had men been really bent upon confining constantly to their houses the

females of their families, they might have effected this in many ways without cruelly depriving them of the physical power of motion. No such custom is known in Turkey or Hindostan, where women are kept in greater habits of retirement than even in China. According to the popular story among the Chinese themselves, the fashion took its rise from a lady of high rank, who was an object of universal admiration for the delicacy of her limbs and person, and particularly the symmetrical smallness of her feet. Yet, powerful as we know the rage of imitation sometimes to be, it is scarcely credible that the admiration bestowed on one individual for her small feet could induce all the rest of her sex, throughout a vast empire, to put at once such violence upon their offspring in order to make them resemble her in that respect; for, as is truly remarked by Sir George Staunton, in his account of Lord Macartney's embassy, 'the emulation of surpassing in this species of beauty must have animated vast numbers of all ranks, and continued through successive ages, to carry it at last to an excess which defeats in fact its intended purpose. Whatever a lady may have gained by the imagined charms of feet decreased below the size of nature, is more than counterbalanced by the injury it does to her health and to her figure, for *grace* is not in her steps, nor *animation* in her countenance.'

Let those, however, who feel astonished at the artificial small feet of the Chinese only recollect the fashion of slender waists in England, and what pains were once taken and sufferings endured to excel in that particular. The ambition of surpassing in anything to which fashion in her caprice has been pleased to affix a mark of superiority, has but too often surmounted all the common feelings of our nature, and been productive of sacrifices which put human reason to the blush

Spanish Costume.

French fashions have been very generally adopted in Spain, where the dresses are introduced under the Spanish cloak. The veil is only exclusively worn by women of the lower sort; for others, it serves only to hide the disorder of the toilet when they go out on horseback. With this exception, their coiffure and their whole dress submit to the power of French fashion. The Spanish manufacturers endeavour to seize and follow the reigning taste in all its variations, without foreign aid, but they have not yet succeeded. The great cities and even the court acknowledge it, in running directly to Paris or Lyons, as the true sources of fashion. In this respect, as well as in many others, the Spaniards who affect the *bon ton* do justice to the superiority of some nations, and take lessons of elegance from them in more than one respect. Their tables are served in the French fashion, their cooks and valets-de-chambre are French; milliners from France deck their wives, and form schools of good taste for their daughters;

even the heavy and antiquated equipages disappear from time to time, and make room for English and French carriages, which are the entire fashion in Madrid.

Theatrical Costume.

It is a curious circumstance, and one which strongly exhibits the revolutions of fashion, that the identical coat in which Garrick first played Fribble, in *Miss in Her Teens*, in the year 1747, and which was, at that period, the very height of foppery, should afterwards be worn by the representative of a grave, close stock-jobbing, money-loving citizen; yet such was actually the case. The coat of Fribble was the very dress in which Quick played Consol, in O'Brien's agreeable farce of *Cross Purposes*, in the year 1772; and which, such are the revolutions of taste, did not appear more *outré* in the latter than in the former character.

Theatrical costume is indebted for its present appropriateness to Mr. John Kemble. In the time of Garrick, Macbeth was dressed in a suit of black, with silk stockings and shoe-buckles at the knee and foot, a powdered wig and small sword. The noble Thane now wears a garb more becoming a Scottish chief.

Points of Rank.

The arm-chair, the stool, the right hand and the left, were, for several ages, important political objects, and notable subjects for ruptures between kingdoms. The etiquette concerning arm-chairs, has been shrewdly supposed to have arisen from our unpolished ancestors having but one in each house, and that usually appropriated to the sick. In England, and in some parts of Germany they are still called *easy-chairs*. In after times, when luxury was introduced into court and capital cities, the princes and lords of the land had two or three arm-chairs in the dungeons they were pleased to call palaces; and it became so great a mark of distinction to be seated on one of these thrones, that a provincial lord of the manor used to make a formal record in his castle, that having been to pay a visit to the count, half a league distant, he had been received in an arm-chair.

When Cardinal Richelieu was negotiating the treaty of marriage between Charles I. of England, and Henrietta of France, with the English ambassadors, the affair was on the point of being broken off, on account of two or three paces more of precedence claimed by the ambassador, near a certain door, which the cardinal would not grant, and to put an end to the difficulty, he received them in bed. What would Scipio have said, had it been proposed to him to strip himself naked, and lie down between a pair of sheets, to receive the visit of Hannibal?

The procession of coaches, and what is called the upper hand in streets, have been

peculiarly fruitful sources of disputes and quarrels. It has been looked upon as a signal victory, to make one coach pass another; and once, when a Spanish minister had made the Portuguese minister's coachman fall in behind his equipage, he dispatched a courier to Madrid, to notify this great advantage to the king his master.

It was for a long time the custom for all foreign ambassadors in England, to make a public entrance into the metropolis; and not unfrequently months would elapse after their actual arrival, during which they went everywhere, and were seen by everybody, before they could muster a sufficient number of old hired state coaches, mended up and newly gilt, to make an appearance suitable to the dignity of their respective courts, the whole mummerly consisting of a long procession of such antiquated vehicles, preceded by troops of valets and pages, all equally hired for the occasion. We have happily lived to see this ridiculous custom exploded. In proportion as courts are weak or uncivilized, ceremonial is in vogue; true power and true politeness, disdain such vanity.

Mrs. Mattocks.

Mrs. Mattocks, the actress, was as much celebrated for the taste and elegance of her dress, as for her histrionic talents. Before her marriage, when Miss Hallam, she appeared in the character of Bertha, in the *Royal Merchant*. Bertha was the niece of the Governor of Bruges, and Miss Hallam, with great judgment, dressed exactly in the style of Rubens's wife (Helena Forman) as he appears in a celebrated picture by that artist.

The Flemish female costume, though common in England during the reign of the Stuarts, was at this period entirely unknown to the English stage, and, therefore, the revival of the Vandyke dress, as it is called by the ladies who afterwards adopted it, came forth with all the attraction of novelty.

The metropolitan fashions did not, in the beginning of the late reign, take such rapid flight from the centre to the extremities of the island, as they have been used to do in modern times; therefore, the various dresses of Mrs. Mattocks, after they had passed the ordeal of the female critics in the theatre, had been there displayed to the admiration of the town, were frequently sent for by the principal ladies of Liverpool and other towns in the country, who adopted and spread the fashion.

The Japanese.

The dress of the Japanese deserves, more than that of any other people, the name of national, in it is not only peculiar to themselves, but it is of the same form in all ranks, from the monarch to his meanest subjects, as well as in both sexes; and what is more re-

markable is, that it has undergone no alteration during a period of twenty-five centuries.

The Japanese dress consists of a sort of night-gowns, made long and wide, and of which several are worn at once. The rich, and the more distinguished, have them of the finest silk, particularly the ladies, who will wear twenty or thirty of different colours, and so thin, that the whole do not exceed three or four pounds in weight. The poorer classes wear thin gowns of cotton. All these gowns are fastened round the waist with a belt, which after going twice round, terminates in a knot, which is very conspicuous, particularly among the ladies, and immediately informs the spectator whether they are married or not. The unmarried have the knot behind, and the married, in front.

A Japanese always has his arms painted on one or more of his garments, especially on the sleeves, or between the shoulders. This is done to prevent their being stolen, which might easily be the case in a country where the clothes are so much alike in quality, size, and shape.

'Good Name is better than Golden Girdle.'

In the reign of Louis VIII., called the Lion, it was customary in the churches in France for the congregation to give each other the kiss of charity, at the words, *Pax Domini sit semper vobiscum*. 'The peace of the Lord be with you always.' The queen one day gave the kiss to a courtesan, who was dressed so magnificently, and so much in the style of the ladies of the court, that the queen mistook her for one of them. The king, enraged at such a mistake, and determined to prevent it for the future, forbade, under the severest penalties, that class of women from wearing golden girdles, or rich cloaks, which were then the distinguishing marks of married women. Hence arose the French proverb, 'Good name is better than golden girdle.'

Profane Swearing.

Among the vices which fashion has too great a share in encouraging, none is of worse example, or less excusable, than that of profane swearing, or the practice of interlarding one's conversation on all occasions, even the most trifling, with appeals to the Deity. A general officer, who is a living and illustrious example of the perfect compatibility of the most gentlemanly manners with the strictest purity of language, but who was in early life much addicted to this fashionable sin, dates his reformation from a memorable reproof which he accidentally received when a young man, from an eccentric Scottish clergyman, settled in the north of England. While stationed with his regiment at Newcastle, he had the misfortune, one evening, to get involved in a street brawl with some persons of the lower

order; and the dispute, as is too usual in such cases, was carried on with an abundance of audacious oaths on both sides. The clergyman alluded to, passing by at the moment, and being much shocked at the imprecations which assailed his ears, stepped into the midst of the crowd, and with his cane uplifted, thus gravely addressed one of the principal leaders of the rabble: 'Oh, John, John, what's this now I hear? You only a poor collier body, and swearing like any lord in a' the land, O, John, hae ye nae fear what will come o' you? It may do very well for this braw gentleman here,' pointing to Lieutenant —, 'to bang and swear as he pleases, but John it's no for you, or the like o' you, to take in vain the name o' Him by whom you live and have your being.' Then turning to the lieutenant, he continued, 'Ye'll excuse the poor man, sir, for swearing; he's an ignorant body, and kens nae better.' Lieutenant — slunk away, covered with confusion, and unable to make any answer: but next day he made it his business to find out the worthy parson, and thanked him in the sincerest manner for his well-timed admonition, which had, as he assured him, and as the result has shown, cured him for ever of a most hateful vice.

A profane exclamation may at times be caused by some sudden emotion of grief or joy, in persons who are habitually the most correct in their language; and to such no better lesson can, perhaps, be offered, than is contained in the following anecdote. Bishop Herring, not more remarkable for his learning than for his benevolence, was applied to by the curate of a parish, on the death of the clergyman to whom he had himself given the living, but who had discovered a disposition quite opposite to his own, for his continuance under the new rector. The good bishop being as well acquainted with the man as with the hardships he had suffered, and with the pooriness of his stipend, and having besides a high regard for his understanding and character, told him that he should have the living himself. 'Shall I, by G—d,' exclaimed the curate, in a transport. The bishop, convinced that his exclamation proceeded from the fullness of his heart, and not from a swearing habit, replied with great mildness, but with a very solemn air, laying his hand upon his breast, 'By the living God, you shall.'

Perfume.

It was the manufacture of rose water, and the odour of the rose, that gave rise, in antiquity, to the account stated by Pliny, of a people living near the source of the Ganges, who lived upon the odours which they drew in by their nostrils. Mr. Moore has not unadroitly made use of this marvellous history, in the personification of smell, in his poem of the 'Senses':

'Many and blissful were the ways
In which they seemed to pass their hours;
One wandered through the garden's maze,
Inhaling all the soul of flow'rs;

Like those who live upon the smell
Of roses by the Ganges' stream,
With perfumes from the flowret's bell,
She fed her life's ambrosial dream.'

Mr. Weston, speaking of this perfume, the pure essential oil of roses, 'more precious than gold,' observes, 'this oil, as I have been informed by Sir Hugh Inglis, to whom I owe the remark, 'is of a green colour and has a greenish cast, for which reason the epithet *virens*, is given by the Psalmist to the oil with which he says he shall be anointed; that is, with "the finest perfume."

Dutch Mania.

Such is the extreme gravity of the Dutch that time rolls on without making any essential alteration, either in their costume or manner. There have been, however, occasions in which they have relaxed from their usual severity and indulged in excesses of fashion, quite as ridiculous as any attending dress. In the early part of the seventeenth century, became a struggle among the Dutch families of rank, not to exhibit rich dresses or splendid furniture, but to vie with each other in the beds of Tulips. The love of the flowers, and the anxiety to possess such as were most rare, raged to such an extent in Holland, from the year 1634, to 1637, that the Dutch of all ranks, from the greatest to the meanest, neglected their respective occupations, and sold all they possessed, to engage in the tulip trade. Accordingly we find in those days, that the fetched most extravagant prices.

The Viceroy was sold for	£24
Admiral Lieftkins	44
Admiral Van Eyck	16
Greber	10
Schilder	10
Semper Augustus	5

Whether there was anything in the name or it was the peculiar beauty of the flower which enhanced the price, does not appear certain; it is enough to prove the folly of the age, to know that such prices were obtained. In 1637, a collection of tulips, of Wout Brockholmsenster, was sold by his executor for £9000.

Of all the tulips, the Semper Augustus was the favourite, and the price we have assigned it, was much less than it frequently produced. A fine Spanish cabinet, valued at £1000, and £300 in money, were given for a Semper Augustus; and another gentleman sold three stocks of the same flower for £100 each. The same gentleman was offered for his flower £1500 a year, for seven years, and everything to be left as found, only reserving the increase during that time, for the money. Another gentleman, by the sale of his tulip, got the sum of £6000 in less than four months.

The tulip madness, at length, raged to such a pitch, that the government deemed it necessary to interfere; accordingly, in 1637, a great check was put to it, by an order of the state

for invalidating all contracts respecting tulips, so that a root was then sold for £5, which a few weeks before fetched £500.

As a proof of the extent to which the tulip trade was carried, it is related, that in one city in Holland alone, in a period of three years, they had traded for a million sterling in tulips. A burgomaster of this city had procured a place of considerable profit for his friend, another native of Holland; when the latter offered to make him any amends in his power, the burgomaster generously refused, and only desired to see his flower garden. In about two years afterwards, the gentleman, on a visit to the burgomaster, perceived, in his garden, a scarce tulip, which had been clandestinely obtained from him, on which he flew into such a passion, that he resigned his place of £1000 per annum, went home, tore up his flower garden, and quitted the country.

Colley Cibber.

Macklin says, nature formed Colley Cibber for a coxcomb; for though, in many respects, he was a sensible and observing man, a good performer, and a most excellent comic writer, yet his predominant tendency was to be considered amongst the men as a leader of fashion, amongst the women as a *beau garçon*. Hence he excelled in almost the whole range of light fantastic comic characters. His Lord Foppington was considered for many years as a model for dress, and that *hauteur* and *non-balance*, which distinguished the superior coxcombs of that day. The picture of him, in this character, with a stiff embroidered suit of clothes, loaded with the ornaments of rings, buff, clouded cane, and snuff-box, exhibits a good lesson to a modern beau, of the versatility and frivolity of fashion, when he pushed beyond its proper bounds.

Simplicity of Dress.

William the Third one day asked Peter the great how he liked London? 'Extremely well,' said the Czar. 'I have been particularly eased to see a simplicity, meekness, and modesty of dress in the richest nation of Europe.'

The Czar was always very plain in his dress. On all solemn festivals, he only wore the uniform of his Preobajenskoi guards, and diplomatic agent, who resided many years in his court, says, 'I saw him in 1721, give a public audience to the ambassadors of Persia, when he entered the hall of audience in nothing more than a surtout of coarse brown cloth. When he was seated on the throne, his attendants brought him a coat of blue *à la Naples*, embroidered with silver, which he put on with great precipitation, because the ambassadors were waiting for admittance. Catherine, who was present, was heard repeatedly to laugh, as the Czar seemed her to be quite astonished at seeing himself

so finely dressed; nor could Peter himself suppress a smile, when he looked at the spangled silk vest which he had carelessly thrown over him. As soon as the ambassadors were gone, Peter threw off his embroidered coat, and put on his surtout.'

This blue silk embroidered coat, which was made for his marriage with Catherine, is still preserved, and is the identical one which now covers his effigy in wax, in the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg.

Venetian Nobility.

The nobles of Venice, when that republic was in its glory, always wore a robe of black cloth when they appeared in the streets. In the winter, this robe was lined with flannel, and in summer with ermine; and though furs can scarcely be in season in Italy in the month of August, yet a respect to their dignity was supposed to forbid the least alteration in their dress. Towards the elbow, this sleeve formed a pretty large sack, which served as a wallet to these Venetian lords, when they went to market; for the reader must learn, that it formed part of the suspicious policy which distinguished this republic, that even the nobles should go to market for their own provisions, and that as privately as possible, without having any servant to attend them. When the Venetian nobility, however, contrived to turn their sleeves to this good account, they forgot to proscribe an old custom, which required that every person on saluting a noble should kiss the sleeve of his robe; so that it was never a difficult matter for such as were curious on the subject, to *smell* what any noble Venetian was to have for dinner.

Almack's.

The balls at Almack's have long been considered among the most splendid amusements of the fashionable world. They were originally commenced by a Mr. McCall, who conceiving his unclassical name a bar to his success, transposed it into Almack. These balls are held every Wednesday during the season, at Willis's Rooms, King Street, St. James's, and are usually attended by the most distinguished fashionables in town. A number of ladies are styled lady patronesses; and as the price of the tickets is only seven shillings, in order to render the balls select, it is necessary that a visitor's name should be inserted in the list of one of the lady patronesses, which of course renders the admission difficult.

Before Brookes's club-house was built, the Whig party, to which it is now devoted, used to meet at Almack's, where a regular book was kept of the wagers laid by the different members, as well as of the sums won or lost at play, which were carried to the accounts of the respective parties, with all the forms of mercantile precision. Some of those wagers present a curious record of the opinions of

statesmen on particular subjects, and of the frivolities in which the gravest of our legislators occasionally indulged. The following are a few specimens.

'Almack's, March 11, 1774. Lord Clermont has given Mr. Crawford ten guineas, on the condition of receiving £500 from him, whenever Mr. Charles Fox shall be worth £100,000 clear of debts.'

'June 4, 1774. Lord Northington bets Mr. C. Fox, that he (Mr. C. F.) is not called to the bar before this day four years.'

'March 11, 1775. Lord Bolingbroke gives a guinea to Mr. Charles Fox, and is to receive a thousand from him whenever the debt of this country amounts to one hundred and seventy-one millions. Mr. Fox is not to pay the £1000 till he is one of his majesty's cabinet.

'August 7, 1792. Mr. Sheridan bets Lord Lauderdale and Lord Thanet, twenty-five guineas each, that parliament will not consent to any more lotteries after the present one, voted to be drawn in February next.'

Statesmen without Buckles.

When M. Roland was presented to Louis XVI. on his appointment to be minister for the home department, the simplicity of his apparel excited the surprise and indignation of the court satellites, who deriving from etiquette their sole importance, believed the state depended on its preservation. 'Oh dear, sir,' said the master of the ceremonies, with a countenance of alarm, whispering Dumourier, and glancing at Roland, 'he has no buckles in his shoes.' 'Oh, shocking,' re-echoed Dumourier, with comic gravity, 'we shall be ruined and undone.'

Dining Beds.

The dining bed, the *lectus tricliniarius*, or *discubitorius*, on which the ancients lay at meals, was about four or five feet high. Three of these beds were generally ranged by a square table in such a manner that one of the sides of it remained open, and accessible to the waiters. Each bed would hold three or four persons.

These beds, or couches, were unknown before the second Punic war; the Romans, till then, sat down to eat on plain wooden benches, in imitation of the heroes of Homer; or, as Varro says, after the manner of the Lacedæmonians and Cretans. Scipio Africanus had brought from Carthage some of these little beds, called *punicani* or *archaici*, stuffed with hay or straw, and covered with the skins of goats or sheep.

For the ladies, it did not seem at first consistent with their modesty to adopt the innovation; accordingly they kept to the old custom all the time of the commonwealth; but from the first Cæsars, they also eat on their beds. The youth who had not yet put on the *toga virilis*, were long kept to the

ancient discipline; and when they were admitted to the table they only sat on the edge of the beds of their nearest relations. 'Never,' says Suetonius, 'did the young Cæsars, Caius and Lucius, eat at the table of Augustus, but they were set *in imo loco*, or, as Tacitus says, *ad lecti fulcra*.

From the greatest simplicity, the Roman by degrees carried their dining beds to the most extravagant munificence. Pliny relates that 'it was no new thing to see them covered over with plates of silver, adorned with the softest mats and the richest counterpanes; and Lampridius, speaking of Heliogabalus, says, 'he had beds of solid silver;' but Pompey went still further, and on his third triumph brought in beds of gold.

Prince Eugene and his Wig.

When Lord Bolingbroke went to receive Prince Eugene of Savoy, at his landing in England, in order to conduct him immediately to Queen Anne, the prince said he was much concerned that he could not see her majesty that night, for Monsieur Hoffman had assured his highness that he could not be admitted into her presence with a tied-up periwig. His equipage was not arrived, and he had endeavoured in vain to borrow a long one among his valets and pages. Bolingbroke affected to turn the matter to a jest, and conducted the prince as he was to her majesty. Of Queen Anne's disdain for generals in tied up periwigs, there can, however, be no doubt; and we dare say even the great Eugene looked a foot less to her majesty on that account. Bolingbroke himself was not always the most careful to humour the queen's partiality to wigs, and neglecting one day to appear in one, she remarked to an attendant that she supposed Lord Bolingbroke would next time appear in his nightcap.

Rare China.

In the early part of the last century, ladies of fashion had a remarkable *penchant* for collections of rare china. Addison says that he remembered when the largest article of China was a coffee cup; but that it had swelled to vases as large as a half hogshead, and that these useless jars were arranged in various fantastical forms in cupboards, and on mantle-pieces, as the reader may yet see in some old-fashioned apartments of the present day.

The fashion for china has not, however, abated, though it may have changed its direction, and it has undergone all the varieties of size, shape, and colour, particularly the tea equipage. In the early part of the last century, the most fashionable tea cups were not much larger than a lady's thimble, but we have seen them increasing from age to age, until they seemed, at length, to dispute the size with a small punch-bowl. Formerly china was admired in proportion to its being thin and transparent; now a person would

soon look for transparency in a mahogany table as in modern porcelain.

In former times, to break a china cup, and thus derange a tea equipage, was considered as a very serious misfortune. We, however, have lived to see the day when breaking a china cup was of no consequence; as some few years ago that tea equipage was considered the most elegant, in which no two of the articles were alike in size or colour; and by way of dignifying this motley collection of odds and ends, it was called the Regency set.

We have, however, at length returned to a better taste, and the collections of porcelain of English manufacture, now possessed by our fashionables, exceeds, both in elegance and quality, the boasted productions of Dresden and Sevres, which so long maintained an undisputed superiority

Japanese Idea of Hair Powdering.

When Captain Golownin, who had been sent out on a mission from the Russian government to Japan, was presented to the Governor of Chakodade in the island of Matsmai, the governor asked him, among other things, whether some change of religion had not taken place in Russia; as the Russian ambassador whom he had formerly seen wore a long tail and thick hair covered with flour; whereas, Captain G. and his attendants had their hair cut short, and no flour on their heads? On Captain G. replying that in Russia there was no connexion between religion and the form of the hair, all the Japanese officers burst into loud laughter, and seemed greatly surprised that there should be no express law on that point.

Abolition of Ruffs in Spain.

The fashion of wearing ruffs was at one time carried to such an excess in Spain, and they were of such enormous magnitude, and so nicely starched and plaited, that twenty shillings used to be paid for starching a single ruff. The Spaniards, who have been always remarkable for carrying their heads high, were led by this contrivance to carry them so much higher, and in so many ridiculous ways, as to offend even the national gravity itself. The king not only issued an edict prohibiting the use of ruffs, but was himself the first to set the example of abandoning them.

Military Effeminacy.

When the Emperor Joseph II., while on his travels, under the name of Count Falkenstein, was at Metz, he attended a review. The count had no *parapluie*. A major-general offered him to the count, which he refused, saying, 'I value not a shower, it hurts nothing of a man but his clothes.' The instant

after, all the umbrellas were folded up and disappeared.

When the late Marquess of Cornwallis was leaving a nobleman's house, and stepping into his carriage, a servant offered to hold an umbrella over him. 'Take that thing away,' said his lordship, 'I am neither sugar nor salt, to suffer by a shower of rain.'

Swedish Naval Costume.

The officers of the Swedish navy are considered as military officers; and in full dress, are obliged to wear *spurs*! It used to excite the surprise of our officers, on walking aft, to see the captain of a Swedish vessel strutting about the quarter-deck with spurs on. As to the Jack Tars, it put them in such a rage, they would have advised a war with Sweden, to oblige the king to lay by the offensive costume, which irritated and offended them in a great degree.

Marie Antoinette.

The Queen of France, Marie Antoinette, soon after her marriage, sent the Empress of Germany, her mother, her portrait, drawn in the most fashionable style, and of which the most striking part was a head-dress, remarkably overcharged with large feathers. The empress returned the portrait, observing, that no doubt some mistake must have happened in sending this present, in which she could not find the portrait of a Queen of France, but that of an opera dancer; that she, therefore, returned it, in order to have the true one sent to her.

The queen no doubt considered this affectionate sarcasm as frivolous or too severe; she did not, therefore, judge it necessary to reform herself in what related to an object of taste, and the court saw the next day, it is said, an addition in the number and size of the feathers in her head-dress. The queen's passion for feathers at last became so observable, that a young bard having written some satirical verses on this fashion, for the *Mercur*, the editor returned the poem, not daring to insert it, lest he should incur the queen's displeasure.

The ladies paid their court to her majesty by encouraging the fashion she had introduced; and the trade of feathers, which had been long on the decline in France, suddenly revived, so much so, that the city of Lyons, the grand dépôt for such articles, was exhausted of them in a moment.

Among those persons that the Queen of France honoured with her peculiar attention, was her milliner, Mademoiselle Bertin. When the queen entered Paris in 1779, the milliner placed herself in a balcony, with thirty of her workwomen; and her majesty, as she passed, waved her hand to her. This public distinction made her fortune, and she immediately became the *marchande de modes*.

The milliner, indeed, acquired such impor-

tance from her interviews with the queen, that she used in her shop the same language the minister used, concerning the audiences he had with his majesty in the cabinet. When a fastidious lady could not be pleased with the various caps presented to her choice, Made-moiselle Bertin would observe, 'Show the lady some specimens of my last consultation with her majesty.'

Receipt for a Lady's Dress.

The following receipt for a lady's dress occurs where one would least expect it, in the works of Tertullian: 'Let simplicity be your white, chastity your vermilion: dress your eyebrows with modesty, and your lips with reservedness. Let instruction be your earrings, and a ruby cross the front pin in your head. Submission to your husband, is your best ornament. Employ your hands in housewifery, and keep your feet within your own doors. Let your garments be made of the silk of probity, the fine linen of sanctity, and the purple of chastity.'

Dean Swift.

George Faulkner, the Dublin printer, once called on Dean Swift on his return from London, dressed in a rich coat of silk brocade and gold lace, and seeming not a little proud of the adorning of his person, the Dean determined to humble him. When he entered the room, and saluted the Dean with all the respectful familiarity of an old acquaintance, the Dean affected not to know him; in vain did he declare himself as George Faulkner, the Dublin printer; the Dean declared him an impostor, and at last abruptly bade him begone. Faulkner, perceiving the error he had committed, instantly returned home, and resuming his usual dress, again went to the Dean, when he was very cordially received. 'Ah, George,' said he, 'I am so glad to see you, for here has been an impudent coxcomb, bedizened in silks and gold lace, who wanted to pass himself off for you; but I soon sent the fellow about his business; for I knew you to be *always* a plain dressed and honest man, just as you now appear before me.'

The 'Spencer.'

Few fashions have originated more ridiculously than the spencer, and yet it was so very convenient an article of dress, that it seems remarkable it should have sunk so entirely into disuse. Mr. Spencer, a gentleman well known among the men of fashion about the middle of the last reign, and familiarly called 'honest Jack Spencer,' was rather particular in his dress, and had, on more than one occasion, led the way in matters of taste. Being once in company where fashion became the subject of conversation, he remarked that there was nothing so preposterous, but if

worn by a person of sufficient consequence, it would be followed. One of the gentlemen doubted this, and offered some arguments to the contrary; when he was interrupted by Mr. Spencer, who said, in order to put the question to the test, I will lay you a wager (mentioning the sum) that if I cut off the skirts of my coat, and walk out, with merely the body and sleeves, some person will follow me. 'No doubt of it,' replied one of the gentlemen present, 'for I think, Jack, all the boys in the street will follow you, though it will only be to laugh at you.' Mr. Spencer said, he meant that some person would adopt the fashion. The bet was accepted, Mr. Spencer's coat 'curtailed of its fair proportion' of skirt, and out he set, first walking down Bond Street, and afterwards passing the shop of a 'man of modes,' whom he knew to be always on the watch for novelty. The fashion was soon adopted, and although at first every person acknowledged it to look extremely ridiculous, yet few articles of dress, of a peculiar shape, ever came into more general use. As to Mr. Spencer, having set the fashion, he did not long adhere to it, although it still retains his name.

Rage for Foreign Manufactures.

It is an old maxim that 'things far sought, and dear bought, are fit for ladies;' the predilection for what is foreign, or of distant manufacture, is not, however, confined to the female sex, although it is well known that such was the prejudice of the Caledonian fair, some years ago, that the manufacturers of Glasgow were obliged to make use of an innocent deception, and mark their beautiful productions 'London.' Our English gentlemen, too, fancied that no elegant toys could be manufactured anywhere but in Paris, although Birmingham had long taken the lead of all the world in every article of that nature, dependent upon taste or genius. The Birmingham manufacturers, conscious of their own superiority, and of the Gallic predilection, used to have a private countermark on the goods they exported to France, that they might, on their re-importation, be able to claim the product of their own ingenuity.

The passion for French lace has long been predominant, although a large portion of that now sold in France is manufactured in Nottingham.

In the year 1819, an English gentleman, who landed at Dover from Calais, was very strictly searched, to discover if he had brought over any contraband goods; his trunks were ransacked in vain, and nothing found; at length one of the custom-house officers requested to examine the gentleman's cane; in vain did he remonstrate against the injustice of their suspicions, and the improbability of anything being concealed in a common walking-stick; but the more anxious he seemed, the more determined was the officer; who, taking the cane, unscrewed it like the joints of a flute, and found carefully rolled up

within it a most beautiful lace veil. The gentleman begged he might be allowed to retain it, dwelt much on the great sum it had cost him, and would give almost any money to retain it. The officer seemed inexorable, until examining the veil very carefully, he returned it to the gentleman, as 'it was of English manufacture, and might have been purchased in London, or at Nottingham, for one-twentieth part of the sum that had been paid for it in France as real Mechlin lace.

A connoisseur of the present day is well known to have given four hundred guineas for what he conceived to be an antique gem, which was actually executed by a living artist now in England; and nothing is more common in Italy than for artists to prepare *antiques* for English travellers. This passion for antiques and exotics, in preference to the productions of modern and national genius, is thus well ridiculed by Garrick in the character of Peter Puff:

'Tis said *virtu* to such a height is grown,
All artists are encourag'd but our own;
Be not deceived, I here declare on oath,
I never yet sold goods of foreign growth.
Ne'er sent commissions out to Greece or Rome,
My best antiquities are made at home;
I've Romans, Greeks, Italians, near at hand,
Free Britons all, and living in the Strand;
I ne'er for trinkets rack my pericranium,
They furnish out my room from Herculanum.'

Fashionable Gallantry.

In that age of gallantry, the reign of Charles the Second, it was customary when a gentleman drank a lady's health, to throw some part of his dress into the flames, in order to do her still greater honour. This was well enough for a lover, but the folly did not stop here, for his companions were obliged to follow him in this proof of his veneration by consuming a similar article, whatever it might be.

Sir Charles Sedley, dining at a tavern, one of his friends perceiving he had a very rich lace cravat on, named the lady to whom honour was to be done, and then made a sacrifice of his own cravat; Sir Charles and the rest of the company were all obliged to follow his example. Sir Charles bore his loss with great composure, observing it was a good joke, but that he would have as good a frolic at some other time. On a subsequent day, dining with the same party, Sir Charles drank a bumper to the health of some beauty of the day; then bidding the waiter call a dentist, whom he had previously placed in an adjoining room, made him extract a carious tooth which had long plagued him. The rules of good fellowship clearly required that every one of the company should lose a tooth; they remonstrated, but in vain; and each gentleman present successively put himself into the hands of the operator, but protesting against the cruel test to which their friendship and gallantry had been put.'

Churlish Rebuke.

Although Queen Elizabeth's fondness for apparel was proverbial, yet she often rebuked those who wore dresses not becoming their rank or station in life. An instance of this is related in the Harrington papers. 'It happened,' says this author, 'that Lady Mary Howard was possessed of a rich border, with gold and pearl, and a velvet suit belonging thereto, which moved many to envy; nor did it please the queen, who thought it exceeded her own. One day the queen did send privately, and got the lady's rich vesture, which she put on herself, and came forth from the chamber among the ladies; the kirtle and border were far too short for her majesty's height; and she asking everyone how they liked her new fancied suit. At length, she asking the owner herself if it was not made too short and ill-becoming; which the poor lady did presently consent to; "Why, then, if it become not me, as being too short, I am minded it shall never become thee, as being too fine; so it fitteth neither well." This sharp rebuke abashed the lady, and she never adorned herself herewith any more. I believe the vestment was laid up till after the queen's death.'

French Fashions.

In the year 1715, Dr. John Harris, the Prebendary of Canterbury, published an elaborate 'Treatise upon the Modes, or a Farewell to French Kicks,' to which he prefixed the apposite motto, '*Est modus in rebus.*' In this work he dissuades his countrymen from applying to foreigners in matters of dress, because we have 'a right, and power, and genius,' to supply ourselves. 'The French tailors,' he observed, 'invent new modes of dress, and dedicate them to great men, as authors do books: as was the case with the Roquelaure cloak, which then displaced the surtout, and had its name from being dedicated to the Duc de Roquelaure, whose title was spread by this means through France and Great Britain. The coat,' he says, 'was not the invention of France, but its modifications and adjuncts were all entirely owing to them as the pockets and pocket flaps, as well as the magnitude of the plaits, which differed from time to time in the mystical efficacy of an unequal number.'

The work of Dr. Harris was so well received, that at the particular recommendation of John, Duke of Argyle, the patriotic censor of French modes was rewarded with a mitre as Bishop of Llandaff.

French fashions were, however, as severely censured, long before Dr. Harris, by the immortal Shakspeare, although he was not so well rewarded for his patriotism. The passage occurs in the play of *Henry the Eighth*, where the Lord Chamberlain enquires,

'What news, Sir Thomas Lovell?
Lovell. Faith, my lord,

I hear of none but the new proclamation,
For reformation of our travell'd gallants,
That fill the court with quarrels, talk, and
tailors.

They must either leave their remnants
Of fools and feathers, that they got in France,
With all their honourable points of ignorance,
Pertaining thereunto—renouncing clean
The faith they have in Tennis, and tall stock-
ings,

Short blistered breeches, and those types of
travel,

And understand again like honest men,
Or pack to their old playfellows; there I
take it

They may *cum privilegio*, wear away,
The legend of their folly, and be laughed at.'

The Foible in Dress.

It is not a nicety in dress which is to be condemned in ladies, but that excessive fondness for novelty, and slavishness of imitation, which leads so many of them to adopt every fashion that is new, without the least regard to its suitableness to their shape, height, or complexion. Thus nothing could be more graceful than the Polonese on the person of a tall genteel woman.

'Twas the dress the Trojan fop,
Prais'd so much on Ida's top;
For when Venus left the seas,
She put on her Polonese.

But when this garment became transferred to the back of a short fat squab of an elderly woman, and the two sides were obliged to be pursed up with silk crimson strings, like the folding of a curtain; it presented as uncouth an appendage to the person, as can well be imagined.

A lady, who played some years ago a distinguished part in the fashionable world, used to draw great amusement to herself, from this foible in her sex. Trusting to the inimitable heanties of her own person, she frequently invented some whimsical dress, which she herself was sure to become, that the rest of the ladies might copy her to their own confusion; but as soon as the stratagem had effectually taken place, she would laugh at their folly, and leave them to be ridiculous by themselves.

Court of Henry IV. of France.

Luxury of dress appears to have been carried to a great height in the court of Henry IV. Bassompierre assures us, that 'The baptism of the royal children of France, in 1606, when all the nobility and courtiers strove to outvie each other in expense, the dress which he made up for the occasion, cost him seven thousand crowns. The cloth of gold which composed the materials of this superb suit, was embroidered, or rather totally covered, with pearls. The fashion of it alone cost three hundred crowns. "When," says he, "I arrived at Paris, all the tailors and

embroiderers were so employed, that no money could procure them; but my own tailor having informed me, that a merchant at Antwerp, had brought a vast quantity of pearls, with which I might make up a dress superior in beauty to every other in the court, I sent for him. Not less than fifty pounds' weight of pearl were necessary; and the merchant insisted on receiving two thousand crowns earnest. I had only about three hundred and fifty in my purse; nevertheless, I gave orders for it."

When Henry IV. entered Paris in 1594, by torchlight, and on horseback, 'He wore,' says L'Etoile, 'a dress of grey velvet, shot with gold, a grey hat, and a white feather.' But at his nuptials, six years afterwards, we find him habited 'in white satin, embroidered with gold and silk, and a black crape.' The *toghe* or little Italian turban, introduced by Henry III. still continued to be worn, ornamented with jewels.

The dress of the men was at this time marked by great effeminacy. D'Alencourt, the French ambassador at the court of Rome in 1608, on a day of ceremony, was clothed 'in a silver tissue, his shoes and stockings white, his cloak black, with a border of embroidery, lined with cloth of silver, and a bonnet of black velvet.' He was, besides, covered with pearls and precious stones.

Sully, enumerating the principal articles which constituted elegance of dress in 1590, states them to be 'scarfs, feathers, stuffs, silk stockings, gloves, belts, and castor hats;' he, however, complains of an excess of finery, and want of cleanliness, as marking that period. 'Do we not see,' says he, 'the youth of the present time wear collars and wristbands of thread gauze starched, although the body of the shirt be composed of coarse bad cloth, scarcely stitched together?'

It will scarcely be doubted, that the art of decorating and attiring the female person to the utmost advantage, had been assiduously cultivated under a prince of such gallantry as Henry IV. Ladies appear to have been so oppressed under the weight of their ornaments and precious stones, as to have almost lost the power of motion. When Gabrielle d'Estrées entered Paris with her royal lover in 1594, 'She was carried,' says L'Etoile, 'in a magnificent open litter; she had on a robe of black satin, variegated with white; and she was covered with pearls and jewels of such lustre, that they dimmed the torches.' Henry did not disdain to assist at her toilet, to adjust the head-dress, and to place the brilliants in her hair with his own hands.

At the ceremony of a christening in the church of St. Germain de l'Auxerrois, where Gabrielle and the king were present, she was so loaded with diamonds and pearls, as to be scarcely able to stand. L'Etoile assures us, that 'he saw a handkerchief made by an embroiderer at Paris, for Gabrielle, to be worn on the ensuing day, at a ball, the price of which she had herself fixed at nine hundred and fifty crowns, ready money.'

Mary of Medicis did not quit the Tuscan costume, nor assume the fashions of France, until the day after her arrival in the capital of her new dominions. This princess introduced some material alterations in dress. The ruff, so long fashionable during the sixteenth century, was rivalled, though not supplanted, by the 'Medicis,' an ornament composed of lace, supported with wire, which rose behind the neck, to the height of nearly twelve inches. Tissues, cloth of gold and silver, velvet, and ermine, constituted the materials of the dresses of women of distinction on public occasions.

Influence of the Court.

It is one of the least observed, but perhaps not among the least equivocal, proofs of a great advancement in the ideas of freedom entertained by the British people, that their king and queen for the time being may be said to be the only sovereigns in Europe who have ceased to have the power of dictating the fashions to their people. In days of old, nay, so late as the reign of George II., it was with the English, as it is still with other nations; the first personages in the kingdom (from being supposed to be the best informed) led the fashions. As the king and queen, so their whole court, and all the higher ranks of the public, were habited, from the celebrated ruff of the good Queen Bess, to the elegant head-dress of the amiable Queen Caroline. But the reign of George III. introduced a new

era. Queen Charlotte, on her arrival in this country evinced a desire to fall in with its national modes, and a chasteness in her own ideas of improvement in dress, which well entitled her to take the lead of her adopted countrywomen in this respect; but English ladies, it seemed, were not now to be led even by their queen. Her majesty's first endeavour was to reduce their toupce to a size more suited to the length and breadth of the face, than it had been in use to be worn; and next to introduce a cap, neither so diminutive as to be nearly invisible, nor of such a magnitude as to bury the features of the wearer. But in vain were her efforts. Broad and towering head-dresses continued still the rage; and so continued till a love of novelty induced the ladies, of their own accord, to change to something less absurd. As for the gentlemen of those days, they seemed more inclined to follow the manners and dresses of the king's guards than of the king himself; his majesty's wig and large hat found as few imitators among his subjects as his domestic virtues. Nor at any time during the many years which George III. and his virtuous consort presided over society in this country, could their influence over the fashions be said to have much increased. The annual fashions among the ladies continued as usual to take date from the day on which her majesty's birthday was celebrated; but the fashions themselves had little or no regard to what her majesty wore on such occasions, but rather to what was the most admired among the many splendid varieties presented for general imitation.



ANECDOTES OF PASTIME.

—————'PASTIME passing excellent,
If husbanded with Modesty.'—SHAKSPEARE

Dancing.

DANCING, which may be considered as the most universal of all pastimes, was at first, and indeed during some thousand years, a religious ceremony. The most ancient dance of which we have any particular account is that of the Jews, established by the Levitical law, to be exhibited at their solemn feasts. After the passage of the Red Sea, we are told, 'Sumpsit Maria prophetissa, soror Aaron tympanum in manu sua egressaque,' &c. On this occasion there were two distinct bands, one of men, and the other of women.

The daughters of Shiloh were dancing in the vineyards when they were caught by the young men of the tribe of Benjamin, who were advised by the elders of Israel to take that opportunity of supplying themselves with wives. The dancing of David is often quoted, and it is the opinion of some commentators, that every psalm had a separate and distinct dance belonging to it. 'In utroque Psalmo nomine chori intelligi posse cum certo instrumento, homines ad sonum ipsius tripudiantes.'

In the temples of Jerusalem, Samaria, and Alexandria a stage was erected in one part, called the choir, for these exercises, the name of which has been preserved in our churches, and the custom, too, till within a few centuries.

Cardinal Ximenes revived the practice of Musarabic masses in the cathedral of Toledo, when the people danced both in the choir and the nave, with the greatest decorum and devotion. Le Père Menetrier, a Jesuit, relates the same thing of some churches in France, in 1682. So that the sect of Dancing Methodists at Philadelphia, of which such alarming accounts have been given, seem rather to have abused than invented the custom.

The Egyptians had their solemn dances as well as the Jews; the principal was their astronomical dance, of which the sacrilegious dance round the golden calf was an imitation. From the Jews and Egyptians these sacred dances passed into Greece, where the astronomical dance was adapted to the theatre, with chorus, strophe, anti-strophe, epode, &c.

The Greeks had, likewise, the following dances:—The dance of the Curetes, or Corybantes, from the Cretans, and which was anterior to Jupiter, as it is supposed to have saved his life when an infant; the dance of satyrs, invented by Bacchus; the Memphytic dance, invented by Pyrrhus; the rustic dance, invented by Pan; and the *ball-dance*, invented, according to Philostratus, by Comus; according to Diodorus, by Terpsichore; the Hormus, a Lacedemonian dance, which required to be taught at a very early age; and the dance of *innocence*, which was performed by young women. The last was also a Spartan dance, and though so *simple*, was the cause of the *double* indignity offered to Helen, of the Trojan war, and all the subsequent calamities. Æschylus and Lucian mention a Spartan dance, which was accompanied by singing.

Many of these dances are still retained in Greece; but the most curious and interesting of them all, is the nuptial dance, which Mr. Dodwell, in his tour, describes as having seen at Athens, on the marriage of Albanian Christians. When the bride, who was dressed in the gayest attire, had arrived from the country, and approached the house of the bridegroom, she was encircled by all the principal females, who assembled before the door, and while they danced around her, welcomed her arrival with a degree of elegance which not only captivated the imagination, but interested the affections. They sung at the same time the nuptial songs.

From Greece, these dances, with various modifications, found their way across the Adriatic. Rome adopted her manners and her arts, which were afterwards dispersed over the rest of Europe. The great Scipio Africanus amused himself with dancing. 'Not,' says Seneca, 'those effeminate dance which announce voluptuousness and corruption of manners, but those manly animated dances in use among their ancestors, which even their enemies might witness without abating their respect.'

Dancing has always been a favourite amusement in England. So far back as the twelfth century, the damsels of London spent the evenings on holidays in dancing.

before their masters' doors. Stow laments the abolition of this 'open pastime,' which he remembered to have seen practised in his youth; and considered it not only as innocent in itself, but also as a preventive to worse seeds 'within doors,' which he feared would follow the suppression.

Dancing was constantly put in practice among the nobility upon days of festivity, and was countenanced by the example of the court. After the coronation dinner of Richard the Second, the king, the prelates, the nobles, the knights, and the rest of the company, spent the remainder of the day in dancing in Westminster Hall to the music of the minstrels. Several of our monarchs are praised for their skill in dancing, and none more so than our Henry the Eighth.

Chess.

Notwithstanding the many conjectures which have been hazarded, the origin of the game of chess is unknown; though it is certain that it is of very remote antiquity, and more than probable that it first made its appearance in Asia. John de Vigney wrote a work which he called 'The Moralization of Chess,' in which he assures us that the game was invented by a philosopher named Xerxes, in the reign of Evil Merodach, King of Babylon, and was made known to that monarch in order to engage his attention and correct his manners. 'There are three reasons,' says de Vigney, 'which induced the philosopher to institute this new pastime: the first, to reclaim a wicked king; the second, to prevent idleness; the third, practically to demonstrate the nature and necessity of nobleness.' He then adds, 'The game of chess passed from Chaldea into Greece, and thence diffused itself all over Europe.' The Arabians and Saracens, who are said to be admirable players at chess, have new modelled the story of de Vigney, and adapted it to their own country, changing the name of the philosopher from Xerxes to Sisa.

Though it is not known when the game of chess was first brought into this country, yet there is good reason to suppose it was well known ere at least a century before the Conquest, and that it was then a favourite pastime with persons of the highest rank. Mr. Singer thinks that the game was unknown in Europe previous to the Crusades, and that it did not reach us before the twelfth century.

The game is one of extraordinary complication and difficulty. It has been generally practised by the greatest warriors and generals; and some have even supposed that it was necessary for a military man to be a perfect master of it. The interest which it excites, is such as usually to engross the attention of those who engage in it, to the exclusion of all other objects, even of the most pressing moment. We read that Tamerlane, who was a great chess-player, was engaged in a game during the very time of the decisive battle with Bajazet, the Turkish emperor, who was defeated and taken prisoner. It is also re-

lated of Al Amin, the Khalif of Bagdad, that he was engaged at chess with his freedman Kuthar, at the time when Al Mamun's forces were carrying on the siege of that city with so much vigour, that it was on the point of being carried by assault. Dr. Hyde quotes an Arabic history of the Saracens, in which the Khalif is said to have cried out when warned of his danger, 'Let me alone, for I see checkmate against Kuthar.'

Daniel relates, that Prince Henry, the youngest son of the Conqueror, afterwards Henry the First, who, with his brother Robert, went to the court of the French king, after dinner won so much money of Louis, the king's eldest son, at chess, that he lost his temper, reproached him with the base birth of his father, and threw the chess men in his face. Henry took up the chess board, and struck Louis with such force, that he drew blood, and would have killed him, but for the interference of his brother Robert, who got him away.

We are told that Charles the First was at chess when news was brought of the final intention of the Scots to sell him to the English; but so little was he discomposed by this alarming intelligence, that he continued his game with the utmost composure; so that no person could have known that the letter he received had given him information of anything remarkable.

King John was playing at chess when the deputies from Rouen came to acquaint him that their city was besieged by Philip Augustus; but he would not hear them until he had finished his game.

The following remarkable anecdote we have from Dr. Robertson, in his 'History of Charles V.' John Frederic, Elector of Saxony, having been taken prisoner by Charles, was condemned to death. The decree was intimated to him while at chess with Ernest of Brunswick, his fellow prisoner. After a short pause, and making some reflections on the irregularity and injustice of the emperor's proceedings, he turned to his antagonist, whom he challenged to finish the game. He played with his usual ingenuity and attention; and having beat Ernest, expressed all the satisfaction that is commonly felt on gaining such victories. He was not, however, put to death, but set at liberty after five years' confinement.

In the 'Chronicle of the Moorish Kings of Granada,' we find it related, that in 1396, Mehemed Balba seized upon the crown in prejudice of his elder brother, and passed his life in one continued round of disasters. His wars with Castile were invariably unsuccessful; and his death was occasioned by a poisoned vest. Finding his case desperate, he despatched an officer to the fort of Salobrena, to put his brother Juzaf to death, lest that prince's adherents should form any obstacle to his son's succession. The alcaide found the prince playing at chess with an *alfaqi* or priest. Juzaf begged hard for two hours' respite, which was denied him; at last, with great reluctance, the officer per-

mitted him to finish the game; but before it was finished, a messenger arrived with the news of the death of Mchemed, and the unanimous election of Juzaf to the crown.

We have a curious anecdote of Ferrand, Count of Flanders, who having been accustomed to amuse himself at chess with his wife, and being constantly beaten by her, a mutual hatred took place; which came to such a height, that when the Count was taken prisoner at the battle of Bovines, she suffered him to remain a long time in prison, though she could easily have procured his release.

Dice.

There is not perhaps any species of amusement more ancient than playing at dice; since it was one of the most early pastimes in use among the Grecians, and is said to have been invented by Palamedes, the son of Nauplius, King of Eubœa. Others, agreeing as to the time that dice were invented, attribute it to a Greek soldier named Alea; but Herodotus assigns the invention of both dice and chess to the Lydians, a people of Asia; in which part of the world it is most probable they originated, at some very remote and uncertain period.

No game has been more universally prevalent, and, generally speaking, none more pernicious in its consequences. The ancient Germans, even in their state of barbarism, indulged the propensity for gambling with dice, almost to a degree of madness. Tacitus assures us, that they not only would hazard all their wealth, but even stake their liberty, upon the turn of the dice; and he who lost, submitted to servitude, though younger and stronger than his antagonist, and patiently permitted himself to be bound, and sold in the market. The Saxons, the Danes, and the Normans, were all of them greatly addicted to the same infatuating pastime.

Dice playing was a fashionable diversion in the reign of Henry the Eighth. Hall, speaking of this monarch, says, 'The king about this season was much given to play at tennis and at the *dice*, which appetite certain crafty persons about him perceiving, brought in Frenchmen and Lombards to make wagers with him, and so he lost much money; but when he perceived their craft, he eschewed their company, and let them go.'

Cards.

It has been asserted, that cards, as well as dice, were invented by the Lydians, during the affliction of a famine in the reign of Atys; but among all the games mentioned by the ancient Greek and Roman writers, there is not one which can with good foundation be supposed to designate cards; we may therefore safely conclude, that they were unknown to them.

St. Cyprian has been quoted as making

mention of cards, and asserting that they formerly contained the images of Pagan idols which the Christians transformed into the modern figures; but there is nothing in the works to bear out the assertion.

Count de Gebelin has attempted to prove that a kind of cards were in use among the Egyptians in the seventh century before the present era, the figures of which he supposes to have been transmitted from age to age, and have reached us. It would, however, be an extraordinary circumstance, that cards should have existed in Egypt at so early a period, and yet that the Greeks and Romans should not have brought them to Europe, nor the Carthaginian armie have introduced them into Spain and Italy; and still more, that they should only have been effected by the Arabians, who did not reach Egypt before the seventh century after Christ, about the year 635.

It has been generally supposed, that playing cards were first made for the amusement of Charles the Sixth of France, in 1392, at which time he was afflicted with mental derangement; it has, however, been proved, that cards were known in France half a century before that time.

The striking analogies and strong resemblances between the games of chess and cards in their first simple form, are strong proofs of their both being of eastern origin; and it is most probable, that the game of cards, like the game of chess, travelled from India to the Arabians, and traversing the north of Asia and Africa, thus reached Europe. When they were first introduced into England seems uncertain; there is a probability that they were known here soon after the second Crusade, at the latter end of the thirteenth century; but there is no positive evidence of their use here until the middle of the fifteenth.

Roman Charioteers.

Both horse and chariot races, but especially the latter, were favourite diversions among the Romans; and in order that they might enjoy them at their ease, there was an enclosure immediately adjoining the city, called the Circus, although, in point of fact, its form was oval. It was rather more than a mile in circumference; was surrounded with seats in the form of an amphitheatre, with three tiers of galleries; and was calculated to contain 150,000, or, as some suppose, more than 250,000 spectators. In the centre there was a wall twelve feet in breadth and four in height, round which the race was performed; and at one end there stood a triumphal arch, through which the successful charioteer drove, amid the plaudits of the assembly. The horses were restrained by a chain across the course, until the signal was given for starting. The race was generally either decided in one heat or five, or sometimes seven times round the course, which was a distance of four English miles. Four chariots usually started together,

the drivers of which were distinguished by dresses of different colours, each of which had its partizans, who betted largely on their favourite; for it was neither the charioteer or his horses that interested them, but the colour which they adopted; and so far was it carried, that the people were actually divided into parties, who espoused the pretensions of the different liveries with such warmth, that all Rome was at one time agitated with the disputes of the *Green* and *Red* factions.

The chariots, as they are usually called, were nothing more than uncovered two-wheeled cars, high and circular in front, and open behind. They were usually drawn by three or four horses abreast, which the driver occupied in a standing position, with the reins around his body. This practice caused many accidents, for the course being narrow, the turnings sharp and frequent, and both crossing and jostling allowed, the carriages were often overturned.

Blind Man's Buff.

In ancient Rome, a custom was observed of the manumission of slaves, precisely similar to one of the ceremonies of the game of *blind man's buff*; and the coincidence coupled with the analogy between the condition of the slave and the supposed one of the person bound in the game, leads to the conclusion that this sport is of Roman origin. On the manumission of a slave, the master or lictor turning him round a circle, and giving him a blow on the neck, let him go, signifying that he was henceforward free. Persius alludes to this custom in one of his Satires, where, to adopt the English version of Owen, he says,—

Be there that Dama! view a worthless slave,
A knavish muleteers the veriest knave!
But his master one small turn bestow,
And Dama straight shall Marcus Dama grow.

Roman Archers.

Archery was practised among the Romans merely as a pastime, and not in war. The Romans in the field disdained the bow as slow and uncertain. Inflamed with the desire of signalizing himself by acts of personal bravery, the Roman stood with impudence while the enemy was beyond his spear. But although the legions of the Roman state were unaccustomed to the use of the bow, archery was cultivated by many private individuals. The Circus was often the place where feats of this kind were exhibited; even emperors themselves were the actors. Domitian and Commodus have been particularly celebrated for their matchless excellence in the use of the bow.

It is reported of Domitian, that he would place boys in the Circus at some distance from him, and as they held out their hands and separated their fingers, he would

shoot an arrow between them without the slightest injury to this manual target.

The feats recorded of Commodus are more numerous, and he appears to have been one of the most expert archers mentioned in history. It is said by Herodian, that his hand was unerring both with the javelin and the bow, and that the most experienced Parthian archers yielded to his skill. He would kill all kinds of animals in the amphitheatre, by way of exercise, and to show the steadiness of his aim. Stags, lions, panthers, and all kinds of beasts, fell without number by his hand; nor was a second arrow necessary, for every wound proved mortal. He would hit an animal in any part he wished, with the greatest accuracy. A panther was sometimes let loose in the Circus, where a criminal was placed; and just as the animal was going to seize the culprit, he would send an arrow so opportunely, that the man should escape unhurt. A hundred lions have been introduced at the same time in the arena, and with a hundred shafts he would lay them lifeless.

It is also said, that Commodus caused arrows to be made with heads curved in a semicircular figure, and with these he would cut off the neck of an ostrich running at full speed. This feat is the most difficult (may we not add incredible?) of the whole, the ostrich being extremely swift of foot, and having a very small neck.

Persian Archers.

From the accounts we have of the Persians, they appear to be astonishingly expert in the use of the bow, and may be placed in the first rank of archers. Chardin says they shoot with so much accuracy, that they will drive an arrow into the same hole many times successively; and Mr. Tavernier, who was present at a review of the Persian cavalry in 1654, fully confirms the assertion of Chardin. His account of the exhibition is very curious. The king, accompanied by his principal officers, stood on a portal to one of the royal gardens, whence they viewed the most expert and best looking of the troops, who were ordered to ride singly before the place where the king was stationed. The horsemen rode full speed, and as they passed, each man shot an arrow into a turf butt prepared for the occasion. When the review closed, the person whose arrow stood nearest the centre, was promised an increase of pay.

There was one horseman, who, riding in his turn, when he came before the portal, stopped his horse and walked over the plain, contrary to the orders of the general. When he came opposite the butt, he refused to shoot his arrow, and only raised his arms in the attitude of drawing the bow. The king, enraged to see his discipline so grossly disregarded, ordered his weapons and horse to be immediately taken from him; but one of the generals pleaded his cause, and assured his majesty that he was one of the best soldiers in the army, and had fully proved his skill

and courage in the sieges of Erivan and Candahar. The king then commanded the horse and arms to be restored to the cavalier, and he was ordered to take his turn in the review. He accordingly advanced, crying out, 'Where would the king have me shoot?' 'At the target, where the other horsemen have shot,' said one of the generals. The soldier with a smile, said, 'Must I then direct my arrows against a turf? I would rather point them at the enemies of my country; against whom I would sooner discharge three quivers, than a single arrow at this turf.' He then drew two arrows, and taking one in his mouth, placed the other in his bow, when darting his horse vigorously across the plain till he passed the butt, in the Parthian attitude of shooting behind him, drove an arrow into the centre of the target. Turning about suddenly, he in the same manner shot his second arrow precisely into the hole whence his first arrow had been drawn!

Mock Fight of the Bridge of Pisa.

A mock fight occasionally exhibited on the bridge of Pisa, is the only remaining vestige of those martial games so famous among the Greeks and Romans. The amusement consists in a battle fought by nine hundred and sixty combatants; who, clothed in coats of mail, and armed with wooden clubs, dispute for three quarters of an hour the passage of the bridge. The strongest combatants possess themselves of the field of battle; and when stratagem can be employed with success, it is resorted to, but to fight in earnest is forbidden. This mock encounter, however, frequently costs lives, and is therefore seldom permitted, though one of the most attractive exhibitions in Italy.

Some authors state this pastime to have been instituted by Pelops, son of Tantalus, King of Phrygia; others think it was established by Nero: while there are some who attribute it to the year 1005, when it was celebrated in honour of the defeat of Musetto, King of Sardinia, which happened that year upon a bridge of Pisa.

Whoever may have instituted this custom, it is entered into with great spirit by the Pisans. When a man stands candidate for the honour of being a combatant, he is encased in armour, and then beat for half an hour with wooden clubs. Should he happen to flinch or cry out during this ceremony, he is rejected; but if he bears it without a murmur, he is chosen a candidate.

Diversions of the Middle Ages.

The favourite diversions of the middle ages in the intervals of war, were those of hunting and hawking. A knight seldom stirred from his house without a falcon on his wrist, or a greyhound that followed him. Thus Harold and his attendants are represented in the

famous Bayeux tapestry; and in the monuments of those who died anywhere but on the field of battle, it is usual to find a greyhound lying at their feet, or a bird upon their wrist. Nor are the tombs of ladies without the falcon; for this diversion being of less danger and fatigue than the chase, was shared by a softer sex.

Edward the Third took so much delight in hunting, that even at the time he was engaged in war with France, and resident in this country, he had with him in his army six couple of stag hounds, and as many hounds, and every day he amused himself with hunting or hawking. It also appears that many of the nobles in the English army had their hounds and their hawks, as well as the king; and Froissart assures us, that Gaston, Earl of Foix, a foreign noble contemporary with King Edward, kept upwards of six hundred dogs in his castle for the purpose of hunting.

It was impossible to repress the eagerness with which the clergy, especially after the barbarians were tempted by rich bishoprics to take upon them the sacred functions, rushed into these secular amusements. Prohibitions of councils, however frequently repeated, produced little effect. In some instances particular monasteries obtained a dispensation. Thus, that of St. Denis, in 1774, represented to Charlemagne that the flesh of hunted animals was salutary for sick monks, and that their skins would serve to bind the books of the library. Reasons equally cogent, it may be presumed, could not be wanting in every other case. As the bishops and abbots were perfectly feudal lords, and often did not scruple to lead their vassals into the field, it was to be expected that they should debar themselves from an innocent pastime. Some of them indeed are recorded for their skill in hunting. Walter, Bishop of Rochester, who lived in the tenth century, was an excellent hunter, and so fond of the sport that at the age of eighty he made hunting his sole employment to the neglect of the duties of his office; and in the succeeding century an abbot of Leicester surpassed all the sportsmen of his time in the art of hare hunting.

When these dignitaries were travelling for the purpose to place upon affairs of business, they usually had both hounds and hawks in the train. Alexander III., by a letter to the clergy of Berkshire, dispenses with their keeping the archdeacon in dogs and hawks during his visitation. The season gave jovial ecclesiastics an opportunity of extending their sports to different counties. An Archbishop of York, in 1321, seems to have carried a train of two hundred persons, who were maintained at the expense of the abbey on his road, and to have hunted with a pack of hounds from parish to parish. The third council of Lateran had prohibited this amusement on such journeys, and restricted bishops to a train of forty or fifty horses. Fitzstephen assures that Thomas Becket being sent as ambassador from Henry the Second to the court of France, assumed the state of a secular potentate.

etc, and took with him dogs and hawks of various kinds, such as were used by kings and princes.

The ladies often accompanied the gentlemen in hunting parties. Upon these occasions was usual to draw the game into a small compass, by means of enclosures, and temporary stands were made for them to be spectators of the sport, though in many instances they joined in it, and shot at the animals as they passed by them with their arrows.

The ladies had also hunting parties by themselves, on which occasions the female lords dispensed with the method of riding best suited to the modesty of the sex.

Queen Elizabeth was extremely fond of the chase, and very frequently amused herself with following the hounds. 'Her Majesty,' says a courtier writing to Sir Robert Sidney, 'as well, and excellently disposed to hunting, on every second day she is on horseback, and continues the sport long.'

Fitzstephen describing the sports of the citizens of London in his time, says, 'Every Friday in Lent a company of young men come into the field on horseback, attended and conducted by the best horsemen, then march forth the sons of the citizens and other young men with disarmed lances and shields, and there they practise feats of war. Many tournaments, likewise, when the king is near the spot, and attendants upon noblemen, do pair to these exercises, and while the hope of victory does inflame their minds, they show by good proof how serviceable they could be in martial affairs.'

The lower classes in this age of masculine manners made every amusement where strength was exerted matter of instruction and improvement. In the vacant intervals of industry and labour, commonly called the holidays, indolence and inactivity, which at that day mark this portion of time, were found only in those whose lives were distempered with age or infirmity. The view which Fitzstephen gives us of their manners is animated. 'In Easter holidays,' says he, 'they fight battles upon the water. A shield is hung on a pole, fixed in the middle of the stream. A boat is prepared without oars, to be borne along by the violence of the water, and in the rear thereof standeth a young man ready to give charge upon the shield with his lance. So be that he break his lance against the shield, and doth not fall, he is thought to have performed a worthy deed. If, without breaking his lance, he runs strongly against the shield, down he falleth into the water, for the tide is violently forced with the tide; but on the other side of the shield ride two boats, furnished with young men, who recover him who is left as soon as they may. In the holidays, in the summer, the youths are exercised in jousting, dancing, shooting, wrestling, casting stones, and practising their shields, and as the ideas trip with their timbrels, and dance as gaily as they can well see. In winter, every Friday, before dinner the boats prepared for the water are set to flight, or else bulls or bears baited.'

Hawking.

The origin of hawking, or flying of hawks, cannot be traced to an earlier period than the middle of the fourth century. Julius Firmicius, who lived about that time, is the first author that mentions it, but Peacham, in his 'Complete Gentleman,' states that hawking was first invented by Frederic Barbarossa, when he besieged Rome. The period of its introduction into England is uncertain, but it is known to have been practised in the eighth century, and in the succeeding one this sport was so highly esteemed by the Anglo-Saxon nobility, that the training and flying of hawks became one of the essentials in the education of a young man of rank. Alfred the Great is celebrated for his early proficiency in hawking, and is even said to have written a treatise on the subject, though no such work is extant.

Hawking is often mentioned in the capitularies of the eighth and ninth centuries. The Grand Falconer of France was an officer of great eminence, his annual salary was four thousand florins, and he was attended by fifty gentlemen, with fifty assistants. He was allowed to keep three hundred hawks, and he licensed every vendor of hawks, and received a tax upon every bird sold in that kingdom, and even within the verge of the court.

Edward the Third, when he invaded France, had with him thirty falconers on horseback, who had charge of his hawks, and every day he indulged either in the sport of hunting or hawking.

Hawking was performed on horseback or on foot, as occasion required. On horseback when in the fields and open country, and on foot when in the woods and coverts. In following the hawk on foot, it was usual for the sportsmen to have a stout pole with him to assist him in leaping over little rivulets and ditches, which might otherwise prevent his progress. Henry the Eighth, while pursuing his hawk on foot, at Hitchin, in Hertfordshire, attempted with the assistance of his pole to jump over a ditch that was half filled with muddy water, the pole broke, and the king fell into the mud, where he would probably have been suffocated had not one of his footmen leaped into the ditch and rescued him from his perilous situation. It was a custom for ladies not only to accompany gentlemen in this sport, but also to practise it themselves, and they are said even to have excelled the men in the knowledge and exercise of the art of falconry.

Under the Norman government, no persons but such as were of the highest rank, were permitted to keep hawks, until the Forest Charter was exacted from King John, by which the privilege was given to every freeman to have aeries of hawks, sparrowhawks, falcons, eagles, and herons, in his own woods. Several restrictive laws have, however, since been made relative to hawking, many of which are extremely capricious. Other laws have been made for their protection; as one in the reign of Henry the Seventh, by which

it was enacted, that if any person was convicted of taking or destroying the eggs of a falcon, he should suffer imprisonment for one year and a day, and be liable to a fine at the king's pleasure.

Hawks have been sold at very extravagant prices. At the commencement of the seventeenth century, a goshawk and a tasselhawk were sold for one hundred marks; and in the reign of James the First, Sir Thomas Morison is said to have given a thousand pounds for a cast, that is, a pair of hawks.

The practice of hawking declined from the moment the musket was introduced in field sports, as it pointed out a more ready and certain method of procuring game. The diversion it is probable would now have been extinct in this country, but for the celebrated Colonel Thornton, who has preserved, and sometimes exercised, this ancient pastime. In his 'Sporting Tour to the Highlands,' he gives an account of his having practised the sport there, to the great surprise and gratification of the people, who were acquainted with it. 'We rode,' says he, 'and the falconer attended with a cast and a half of hawks. I had long resisted the solicitations of Mr. D. to fly a hawk whenever we happened to mark in a pout near us, which was frequently the case. At length one came so near, that I could not deny him this breach of the law in a country which requires none. I consented. Determined to follow up the bird, a tercel was unhooded, and took a very handsome place, and killed his bird at the first flight. Having once broken the law, grown bolder in iniquity, as is usually the case, we stuck at nothing, and had a very pleasant day's sport indeed; for the hawks were well broke in to ptarmigans, and flew well. We killed twenty-two birds, and had a most incomparable flight at a snipe, one of the best I ever saw, for full sixteen minutes. The falcon flew delightfully, but the snipe got into a small juniper bush near us, her only resource. I ordered the tercel to be leached down, and I took the other falcon, meaning at any rate that they should succeed with this snipe. When flushing it, I flew my falcon from the hood [a cap with which their head is covered]; the other was in a very good place, and on the falconer's head. A dreadful well maintained flight they had, and many good buckles in the air. At length they brought her like a shot from the clouds, into the small juniper bush she had saved herself in before, and close to which we were standing. Pluto [one of the pointers] soon stood it, and so closely, that I fortunately took it alive; and throwing out a moor-poult to each falconer as a reward, and preventing by these means the two hawks from fighting for the snipe and carrying it away, we fed them up, delighted beyond measure at this noble flight. We minuted them very accurately both times when they took to the air, and the last flight was eleven minutes; during which time, moderately speaking, they could not fly less than nine miles, besides an infinite number of buckles or turns.'

Tennis.

Amongst the Romans, tennis was one of their most active amusements, not merely a pastime for youth, but as the relaxation of the gravest, as well as the most distinguished men. Suetonius, in his 'Life of Augustus,' mentions it as one of the diversions of the prince. Valerius Maximus relates, that the celebrated jurist Scævola was in the habit of amusing himself with it after the fatigues of the forum; and Plutarch observes, that on a very day on which Cato of Utica lost his election to the dignity of Consul, he went usual to the tennis court, although such days were usually passed in mourning by the successful candidates and their friends. Mæcenæ is also mentioned as attached to this diversion. Pliny the Younger alludes to it with evident satisfaction; and indeed it was so much in fashion, that country houses were without a court attached to them for that purpose; and in the city the public courts were numerous. But the game does not appear to have been played like modern tennis, with a racket, but with the hand, which was furnished with gauntlet. The rules of the game were different.

Female Tennis Player.

St. Foix, in his 'Essais Historiques sur Paris,' mentions a young woman of the name of Margot, who resided there, and played hand tennis with the palm, and also with the back of her hand, better than any other man, and what is most surprising, is, that at that time the game was played with the naked hand, or at least with a double glove.

The First of May.

'Hail! sacred thou to sacred joy,
To mirth and wine, sweet First of May
To sports, which no grave cares alloy.
The sprightly dance, the festive play.'

BUCHANAN

The first of May was dedicated by the Romans to one of the most pleasing and splendid festal rites. The houses were decked with garlands of flowers, and the day was devoted to pleasure; the principal inhabitants going to Ostia, a pleasant town about sixteen miles from the capitol, in order to spend the time in greater festivity.

Some are of opinion, that the custom formerly observed in England on the first of May, have rather been borrowed from the Gothic ancestors than from the Romans; whether this may have been the case or not, they were certainly observed with equal spirit. Shakspeare says, that it was impossible to make the people sleep on May morning; and this eagerness

'To do observance to a morn of May,' was not confined to any particular rank or society, but royal and noble personages,

all as the vulgar, went out a 'Maying' early in the morning of the first of May. Chaucer says, on that day 'fourth goeth all to court, both most and lest, to fetch the girls fresh, and braunch and blome;' and now states, that 'in the moneth of May, the citizens of London of all estates, in every parish, or sometime two or three parishes joining together, had their several Mayings, and did fetch in maypoles, with divers warlike bows, with good archers, morris-dancers, and other devices for pastime all the day long; and towards the evening they had stage plays, and bonfires in the streets.'

King Henry the Eighth and Queen Katharine partook of this diversion, and rode a Maying from Greenwich to the high ground of Shooter's Hill, accompanied with many lords and ladies. Here they were received by a company of 200 tall yemen all clothed in green, with green hoods and bows and arrows. One of them personating Robin Hood, as captain of the band, requested the king and all his company to stay and see his men shoot, to which his majesty agreeing, Robin Hood whistled, and all the two hundred discharged their arrows at once, which was repeated on his whistling again. Their bows had something placed in the heads of which made them whistle as they flew, and altogether made a loud and uncommon noise. The gentleman who assumed the character of Robin Hood then desired the king and queen, with their retinue, to enter the green wood, where, in arbours made with boughs intermixed with flowers, they were plentifully served with venison and wine by Robin Hood and his men.

About two years after this, an event happened which turned this day of rejoicing into one of sorrow, and led for a time to the entire suppression in London of the May games. The citizens taking offence at the encouragement granted to foreigners, a priest named John was persuaded to preach against them at St. Dunstons Church, and in a very inflaming sermon, he invited the people to oppose the presence of all strangers among them. Suddenly a rumour arose that on May day all the foreigners in London would be assassinated, and many of them sought their safety in flight. The circumstance coming to the knowledge of the king and council, Cardinal Beaufort sent for the Lord Mayor and several of the city council, and exhorted them in strong terms to use measures for the preservation of the peace. A court of common council was accordingly assembled at Guildhall, the evening before May day, in which it was resolved to order every man to shut up his doors, and keep his servants at home during the day. The order was communicated by each alderman to the inhabitants of his ward; but when May morning came, it was found to have met with only a partial observance. As one of the aldermen was walking up Cheapside, he observed two young men at play, and many others looking on; he seized the youths, in order to send them to the Compter, but they were soon

rescued, and the cry raised of 'Prentices! Prentices! Clubs! Clubs!' A great crowd instantly assembled; the mayor and sheriffs made proclamation for their dispersion in the king's name, but to no purpose; instead of obeying it, they broke open the houses of a number of foreigners, particularly Frenchmen, and continued plundering them till three next morning. As the multitude began then to scatter to their homes, the mayor and his attendants picked up about 400 of the stragglers, and committed them to the several prisons. While the riot lasted, the lieutenant of the tower fired several large pieces of ordnance into the city, but it is said without doing much mischief.

On the 4th of May a special commission was opened at Guildhall for the trial of the prisoners; and to protect the proceeding from any interference on the part of the populace, the Duke of Norfolk brought into the city a body of 1300 men. On the 5th, thirteen persons were convicted and sentenced to be hanged, drawn, and quartered; and on the 7th, several more were condemned to suffer the same fate. For the execution of the criminals, ten gibbets were erected in different parts of the city, and raised upon wheels, in order that they might be moved from street to street, and from door to door, the better to impress the whole population with the salutary terrors of the law. The dread day of punishment arrived; one man was executed at Cheapside, and the rest were about to be turned off, when, to the great joy of many a weeping family, and of the populace at large, a respite arrived from his majesty, and the criminals were remanded to prison.

It was now resolved that the lord mayor, recorder, and aldermen, should wait upon the king, and solicit his forgiveness for the city. They went accordingly to his palace at Greenwich, all clothed in deep mourning, but were allowed to wait a long time at the privy chamber door before his majesty would deign to give them audience. At last, the king, attended by a number of his nobles, came forth; the city deputation fell immediately upon their knees, and the recorder, in the name of the rest, begged in the most humble and submissive terms that his highness would forgive them for the unfortunate events of May day, and would have compassion on the offenders, whom he represented 'as a small number of light persons.' Henry, in great anger, demanded why they had not attempted to fight with the offenders, since they were such 'a small number of light persons?' No answer being given, his majesty proceeded to observe that they must have winked at the disorder, and that nothing could atone for their negligence; saying which, he turned on his heel, and left the prostrate citizens in a state of inexpressible mortification.

A trial of pride still severer awaited the corporation. The king and court seemed resolved to make them undergo the most abject humiliation before restoring them to favour. On the 22nd of May, the king held a court at Westminster Hall; he sat at the upper end

under a cloth of state, surrounded by a great many nobles, knights, and gentlemen. Cardinal Wolsey announced to his majesty that the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council of the city of London, were in waiting, and desired to lay themselves at his majesty's feet. The deputation were then introduced by the lower end of the hall, and as they advanced presented a truly melancholy spectacle. The chief magistrate and other dignitaries of the city were clothed in mourning gowns; they were followed by the whole of the prisoners, amounting to about four hundred, stripped to their shirts, bound together with cords, and with halters round their necks; and to add to the wretchedness of the latter part of the scene, eleven women were beheld among the number of the condemned. The whole falling on their knees, the recorder repeated the supplication which the corporation had before submitted to his majesty. Cardinal Wolsey made answer in the name of the king. After severely rebuking the lord mayor, aldermen, and commonalty, for their neglect of duty, he told the prisoners that for their offences against the laws of the realm, and against his majesty's crown and dignity, they richly merited death. At this they all set up a cry of 'Mercy, gracious lord, mercy!' The king seemed moved; the nobles interceded; and at last, yielding to the sentiment of compassion which the spectacle before him was so deeply calculated to excite, Henry pronounced aloud his forgiveness of the city, and the pardon of the criminals; who being immediately released from their bonds, threw up their halters in the air, crying, 'God save the king!'

After this disgraceful affair, the May games fell for a time into disrepute; but as time deprived the recollection of it of its bitterness, they were gradually revived, till in the reign of James the First, there was scarcely a village in the kingdom but had its appropriate games and dances on May day.

In 1664 the long parliament issued an ordinance against May-poles, and they were all taken down. At the Restoration, they were permitted to be erected again; but the Puritans had by that time shorn the May game of its principal glories.

Strutt has given a very pleasing and accurate description of the May games and merriment of Robin Hood, as they were in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Eight masqueraders in the most grotesque dresses, consisting of Robin Hood, Maid Marian, Friar Tuck, Little John, the Fool, Tom the Piper, the Hobby-horse, and the Dragon, with from two to ten morris-dancers, or, in lieu of them, the same number of Robin Hood's men, in coats, hoods, and hose of green, with a painted pole in the centre, represented the most complete establishment of the May game.

In the front of the pavilion, a large square was staked out, and fenced with ropes, to prevent the crowd from pressing upon the performers, and interrupting the diversions; there were also two bars at the bottom of the

inclosure, through which the actors might pass and repass, as occasion required.

Six young men first entered the square clothed in jerkins of leather, with axes upon their shoulders like woodmen, and their heads bound with large garlands of ivy leaves interwined with sprigs of hawthorn. They followed six young maidens of the village dressed in blue kirtles, with garlands of primroses on their heads, leading a fine sleek cow decorated with ribbons of various colours interspersed with flowers, and the horns of the animal were tipped with gold. These were succeeded by six foresters, equipped in green tunics, with hoods and hose of the same colour; each of them carried a bugle-horn attached to a baldrick of silk; which he sounded as he passed the barrier. After them came Peter Lanaret, the baron's chief falconer, who personified Robin Hood; he was attired in a bright grass-green tunic, fringed with gold; his hood and his hose were parti-coloured, blue and white; he had a large garland of rosebuds on his head, a bow bent in his hand, a sheaf of arrows at his girdle, and a bugle horn depending from a baldrick of light blue tarantine, embroidered with silver; he had also a sword and a dagger, the hilts both being richly embossed with gold.

Fabian, a page, as Little John, walked at his right hand; and Cecil Cellarman, the butler, as Will Stukely, at his left. These, with ten others of the jolly outlaw's attendants who followed, were habited in green garments, bearing their bows bent in their hands, and their arrows in their girdles. They came two maidens, in orange-coloured kirtles with white courties, strewing flowers; followed immediately by the Maid Marian elegantly habited in a watchet-coloured tunic reaching to the ground; over which she wore a white lincn rochet with loose sleeves fringed with silver, and very neatly plaited; her girdle was of silver baudekin, fastened with a double bow on the left side; her long flaxen hair was divided into many ringlets and flowed upon her shoulders; the top part of her head was covered with a network of gold, upon which was placed a garland of silver, ornamented with blue violets. She was supported by two bride maidens, in sky-coloured rochets girt with crimson girdles, wearing garlands upon their heads of blue and white violets. After them came four other females in green courties, and garlands of violets and cowslips; then Sampson the smith, as Friar Tuck, carried a huge quarter-staff on his shoulder; and Morris, the moletaker, who represented Much, the miller's son, having a long pole with an inflated bladder attached to one end; and after them the May-pole, drawn by eight fine oxen, decorated with scarfs, ribbons, and flowers of diverse colours; and the tips of their horns were embellished with gold. The rear was closed by the Hobby-horse and the Dragon.

When the May-pole was drawn into the square, the foresters sounded their horns, and the populace expressed their pleasure by shouting incessantly until it reached the place

assigned for its elevation ; and during the time the ground was preparing for its reception, the barriers of the bottom of the inclosure were opened for the villagers to approach, and adorn it with ribbons, garlands, and flowers, as their inclination prompted them.

The pole being sufficiently burdened with finery, the square was cleared from such as had no part to perform in the pageant ; and then it was elevated amidst the reiterated acclamations of the spectators. The woodmen and the milk-maidens danced around it according to the rustic fashion ; the measure was played by Peretto Cheveritte, the baron's chief minstrel, on the bagpipes, accompanied with the pipe and tambour, performed by one of his associates. When the dance was finished, Gregory, the jester, who undertook to play the hobby-horse, came forward with his appropriate equipment, and, frisking up and down the square without restriction, imitated the galloping, curvetting, ambling, trotting, and other paces of a horse, to the infinite satisfaction of the lower classes of the spectators. He was followed by Peter Parker, the baron's ranger, who personated a dragon, hissing, yelling, and shaking his wings with wonderful ingenuity ; and to complete the mirth, Morris, in the character of Much, having small bells attached to his knees and elbows, capered here and there, between the two monsters, in the form of a dance ; and as often as he came near to the sides of the inclosure, he cast slyly a handful of meal into the faces of the gaping rustics, or rapped them about their heads with the bladder tied at the end of his pole. In the mean time, Sampson, representing Friar Tuck, walked with much gravity around the square, and occasionally let fall his heavy staff upon the toes of such of the crowd as he thought were approaching more forward than they ought to do ; and if the sufferers cried out from the sense of pain, he addressed them in a solemn tone of voice, advising them to count their beads, say a paternoster or two, and to beware of purgatory. These vagaries were highly palatable to the populace, who announced their delight by repeated plaudits, and loud bursts of laughter ; for this reason they were continued for a considerable length of time ; but Gregory, beginning at last to falter in his paces, ordered the dragon to fall back ; the well-nurtured beast, being out of breath, readily obeyed, and their two companions followed their example ; which concluded this part of the pastime.

The archers then set up a target at the lower part of the green, and made trial of their skill in a regular succession. Robin Hood and Will Stukely excelled their comrades ; and both of them lodged an arrow in the centre circle of gold, so near to each other, that the difference could not readily be decided, which occasioned them to shoot again ; when Robin struck the gold a second time, and Stukely's arrow was affixed upon the edge of it. Robin was therefore adjudged the conqueror ; and the prize of

honour, a garland of laurel embellished with variegated ribbons, was put upon his head ; and to Stukely was given a garland of ivy, because he was the second best performer, in that contest.

The pageant was finished with the archery ; and the procession began to move away, to make room for the villagers, who afterwards assembled in the square, and amused themselves by dancing round the May-pole, in promiscuous companies, according to the ancient custom.

Strutt mentions another custom observed on this day, which was kept up even in his time ; that of the milk-maids dressing themselves very gaily, and borrowing abundance of silver plate, whereof they made a pyramid, which they adorned with ribbons and flowers, and carried it upon their heads, instead of their common pails. They were accompanied by some of their fellow milk-maids, and with a bagpipe or fiddle, they went from door to door, and danced before the houses of their customers.

All the ancient May-day customs are entirely in disuse in London ; but in some parts of the North of England the first of May is still a festival, and some of the honours of the May game are still retained.

The City Common-Hunt.

The citizens of London were formerly permitted to hunt and hawk in certain districts ; and one of the clauses in the royal charter granted to them by Henry the First, says, that they ' may have chases, and hunt as well and as fully as their ancestors have had ; that is to say, in the Chiltre, in Middlesex, and Surrey.' Fitzstephen, who wrote in the reign of Henry the Second, says, that the Londoners delight themselves with hawks and hounds, for they have the liberty of hunting in Middlesex, Hertfordshire, all Chilton, and in Kent, to the waters of Grey, which extends the limits far beyond the words of the charter. These exercises were not much followed by the citizens at the close of the sixteenth century. ' Not,' says Stow, ' for want of taste for the amusement, but for want of leisure to pursue it.' Strype, however, so late as the reign of George the First, mentions among the modern amusements of the Londoners, ' Riding on horseback, and hunting with any lord mayor's hounds, when the *common hunt* goes out.'

This *common hunt* of the citizens, the only relic of which is in the Easter hunt at Epping, is thus ridiculed in an old ballad in D'Urfey's ' Pills to Purge Melancholy,' called the *London Customs* ; which shows that of old, as now, cockney sporting was not held in the highest estimation.

' Next once a year into Essex they go ;
To see them pass along, O 'tis a most pretty show ;

Through Cheapside and Fenchurch-street, and
so to Aldgate pump,

Each man with spurs in horse's sides, and his
 backsword 'cross his rump.
 My lord he takes a staff in hand, to beat the
 bushes o'er;
 I must confess it was a work he ne'er had done
 before:
 A creature bounceth from a bush, which made
 them all to laugh;
 My lord, he cried, a *hare*! a *hare*! but it
 proved an *Essex-calf*.
 And when they had done their sport, they
 came to London, where they dwell,
 Their faces all so torn and scratch'd, their
 wives scarce knew them well;
 For 'twas a very great mercy so many 'scap'd
 alive,
 For of twenty saddles carried out, they brought
 again but five.

London Archers.

Among the variety of pastimes used by the
 citizens of London in ancient times, none
 seems to have been so much in favour as
 archery, and the fields extending from the city
 walls to Islington and Hoxton were kept in
 common for that purpose. In 1365, King
 Edward the Third commanded the Sheriffs of
 London to make proclamation, that 'every-
 one of the said city, strong in body, at leisure
 times or holidays, should use in their recrea-
 tions bows and arrows, or pellets, or bolts,
 and learn and exercise the art of shooting;
 forbidding all and singular in our behalf, that
 they do not after any manner apply them-
 selves to the throwing of stones, hand ball,
 foot ball, bandy ball, lambuck, or cock fight-
 ing, nor such other like vain plays, which
 have no profit in them.'

In the reign of Henry VIII., the fields in
 the neighbourhood of London had become so
 enclosed with hedges and ditches, that the
 citizens could neither shoot, nor even walk in
 them. This so grieved the Londoners, that
 in the sixth year of that king's reign, 'A
 great number of the city,' says Hall, 'assem-
 bled themselves in a morning, and a turner, in
 a fool's coat, came crying through the city,
shovels and spades! shovels and spades! So
 many of the people followed, that it was
 wonder to behold: and within a short space,
 all the hedges about the city were cast down,
 and the ditches filled up, and everything
 made plain, such was the diligence of these
 workmen.'

On the 17th of September, 1583, the Lon-
 don archers, to the number of three thousand,
 each with a long bow and four arrows,
 marched to a place near Shoreditch, called
 Hogsdon fields, where a tent was pitched
 for the chief citizens. The exercise lasted
 two days; and on the evening of the
 second day, the victors were led off the
 field, mounted on horses, and attended by
 two hundred persons, each with a lighted
 torch in his hand.

On the 21st of March, 1661, four hundred
 archers marched with flying colours to Hyde
 Park, where several of the archers with cross-

bows shot near twenty score yards; and some
 of them hit the mark at that very great dis-
 tance. There were likewise three showers of
 whistling arrows, and so splendid was the ap-
 pearance, and the exercise so pleasing, that
 three regiments of foot laid down their arms,
 to join the spectators.

In the year 1675, three hundred and fifty
 archers, most richly habited, assembled in
 Moorfields, to compliment Sir Robert Viner,
 then lord mayor; and on the 26th of May fol-
 lowing, the London archers, to the number of a
 thousand, had a field day in the presence of the
 king, the Dukes of York and Monmouth,
 and most of the nobility. The London
 archers afterwards merged into the Artil-
 lery Company, who enjoy many of their pri-
 vileges. About forty years ago, an attempt
 was made to revive the London archers, but
 it met with little encouragement.

Duke of Shoreditch.

In a splendid shooting match at Windsor,
 before Henry the Eighth, when the exercise
 was nearly over, his majesty observing one of
 his guard, named Barlow, preparing to shoot,
 said to him, 'beat them all, and thou shalt
 be Duke of Archers.' Barlow drew his
 bow, executed the king's command, and re-
 ceived the promised reward; being created
 Duke of Shoreditch, that being the place of
 his residence. Several others of the most ex-
 pert marksmen were honoured with titles, as
 Earl of Pancridge, Marquess of Clerkenwell,
 &c., taken from the villages where they re-
 sided. The title of Duke of Shoreditch, de-
 scended for several generations with the
 captainship of the London archers.

Desperate Fox Chase.

'A chosen few alone the sport enjoy,
 Nor sink beneath the drooping toil.'

SOMERVILLE.

On the 4th of December, 1809, Colonel
 Eyre's fox hounds had a remarkable run of an
 hour and fifty minutes, during which time
 they traversed twenty-eight miles of the fairest
 portion of the district of Lower Ormond, in
 Ireland. 'I was on the earth,' says one of
 the party, in a spirited narrative of the day's
 sport, 'a little after eight; it was rising
 ground, and as the dawn broke, it was
 cheering to behold the fox hunters faithfully
 approaching from distant directions, and as
 they all closed to the point of destination,
 the pack, "in all its beauty's pride," ap-
 peared on the brow of the hill.

— 'O what a charming scene!
 When all around was gay; men, horses, dogs,
 And in each cheerful countenance was seen,
 Fresh blooming health and never-fading joy.'

"The taking his drag from the earth, was
 brilliant beyond common fortune. Like a
 train, which runs off in a blaze, they hardly
 touched it, till they were out of sight. Mad-

man, that unerring finder, proclaimed the joyful tidings; each fox-hound gave credit to the welcome information, and they went away in a crash; it was a perfect tumult in Mr. Neustad's garden; there Reynard was found, and he went off at his brush.

'Where are your disappointments, wrongs, vexations, sickness, cares?'

All, all are fled, and, with the panting winds, lag far behind.'

In skirting a small covert, in the first mile we divided on a fresh fox; it was a moment of importance; nothing but prompt, vigorous, and general exertion, could repair the misfortune: it was decisive, and he now faced the commons of Carney. Broad and deep was the bound's drain, but what can stop fox-hunters? The line had been maintained by five couple of hounds; they crossed the road, and finding themselves on the extensive sod of the common, they began to go "the pace." A scene now presented itself, which nothing but a fox-hunter could appreciate, for its beauty was not discernible to the common and inexperienced eye. At this period the chase became a complete split. The hounds, which had changed, and had now, from different directions, gained the commons, could not venture to run in on the five couple without decidedly losing ground, and to maintain it, instinct directed them to run on credit, and, flanking the five couple, the whole pack formed a chain of upwards of 200 yards in breast across the commons; but as the chase varied through the hollows and windings of this beautiful surface, the hounds on the wings in turn took up the line, and maintained their stations as others had done: so well was this pack matched. Here we crossed walls that on common occasions would have been serious obstacles. The second huntsman, on a young horse, following Lord Rossmore, called out, "What's at the other side, my lord?" "I am, thank God," was the answer. In disappearing from the commons of Carney, the pack was hunting so greedily, that you'd think every dog was hitting. Like an arrow, he now passed along by Carrig-a-gown, for the woods of Peterfield, in the teeth of the most desperate storm I ever witnessed, of rain, hail, and wind! Distress was now evident in the field, for notwithstanding the violence of the gale, "the pace" was still maintained, and as the fox hounds approached the covert, I thought they had got wings. This was the most desperate part of the chase—to choose a leap, was to be thrown out—the rain beat violently—with difficulty we could hold our bridles; the boughs gave way to the storm, the light infantry were flying at him, and the crash was dreadful. The earths in the neighbourhood of Peterfield were open, but Reynard scorned the advantage, and gallantly broke amain; he now made for the river Shannon.

"Where will the chase lead us bewildered?"

'Some object afterwards changed his direction, and away with him to Claprior. He crossed the great drain of the lough, and

here we left young Burton Perse stricking (who had come "all the way from Gall-a-way," to enjoy a regular cold bath), he went down tail foremost, and no "blame to him." There was no time for ceremony; but Tony, who knew the depth of the bath well, took his leave of him, roaring out, "I'll never see your sweet face again." "By G——," says the colonel, "you were never more mistaken; I never saw him more regularly at home in my life; he's used to this, man!" and truth requires me to state, that he joined us again, and before and after the bath, he rode a capital pace. And many was the mile we had still to go, for Reynard seemed little to regard us, and holding his head straight, he crossed like lightning by the old castle of Arcrony, famous in the annals of hunting, and all over its beautiful grounds, and over the great bound's drain into Coolaghgoran again; for poor Reynard had cast a forlorn look towards home at last. There was now a disposition to give him his life; but what could we do? Old Winner was at his brush—his majesty's guards could not have saved him!

In running in, Messrs. Fitzgibbon and H. Westenra took a most sporting leap. A gentleman of jockey weight, but who rode well through the chase, wishing no doubt to show us the length of his neck, "craned at it," swore it was the ugliest place in Europe, and that a flock of sheep might be regularly hid in it. There was a very numerous field at finding. George Jackson rode, as usual, with the hounds; as did Lord Rossmore, Colonel Eyre, Messrs. Fitzgibbon, Henry Westenra, Richard Faulkner, and Burton Perse.

'Thus ended the most desperate fox-chase ever recorded; desperate from its length, desperate from the pace kept up, and desperate from the storm that raged for nearly the last hour, and in the very teeth of which Reynard ran; with the exception of one short check, the chase was maintained with fury throughout.

'There have been longer chases, but no fox was ever killed in such style; it was a view-halloo for the last two miles.'

Nubian Draughts.

A favourite pastime of the negro Arabs in Nubia, and which is also known among the Arabs of Upper Egypt, is the Syredjé, a kind of draughts. It is played upon sandy ground, on which they trace with the fingers, chequers of forty-nine squares. The pieces with which they play, are on one side round balls of camel's dung picked up in the street, and on the other those of goats. It is an intricate game, and requires great attention; the object is to take all the antagonist's pieces, but the rules are very different from those of the Polish draughts. The people (says M. Burckhardt) are uncommonly fond of this game, two persons seldom sitting down together, without immediately beginning to draw squares in the sand. The Mek himself will

play with the lowest slave, if the latter is reputed a good player. If a bystander assists one of the party with his advice, it gives no offence to the other; sometimes they play for a gourd of Bouza, but not usually.

Fox-Hunting Enthusiasm.

In a fox chase in Ireland, by the Boyne hounds, in 1810, Reynard being severely pressed, 'mounted the high and craggy rocks which overhung the ocean and gallantly plunged into the waves beneath; the hounds caught the view, and rushed after him; the sportsmen now approached, enveloped in smoke, their horses covered with foam; never was there seen more determined and desperate riding; they moved like a whirlwind; the enthusiasm of hunting had reached its highest pitch; a noble struggle for precedence commenced to save the fox. Lynch, the huntsman who first arrived, dashed from the precipice into the sea; like an electric shock, the impulse seized the hunters as they came up; quick—quick they followed his example.' The fox was rescued, and every sportsman safely gained the shore. Thus ended a sharp chase of eighteen miles, which was run in an hour and eighteen minutes.

Stag-Hunting on the Lake of Killarney.

Nothing, to a true sportsman, can equal the spirit and elevating joy of a stag hunt on the lake of Killarney. This may appear a sort of Hibernicism, but it is, in truth, plain English; for it is positively a hunt upon the water; the gentlemen who join the sport, being generally in boats on the lake from the beginning to the end of the chase.

The stag is roused by hounds and by people on foot, from the woods that skirt the lake, where it runs wild, like the deer of the American forests. Horses are here made no use of, for they would be of no service. The shores of the lake are composed of immense mountains, rising abruptly from the water, and covered with thick woods. The stag rarely attempts to ascend these heights; and when driven from its sylvan covert, flies almost invariably to the lake. The plan, therefore, for a person to enjoy the diversion best, and with less fatigue, is in a boat on the water. Here the cry of the hounds, the harmony of the horns resounding from the hills on every side, the shouts of joy along the valleys and from the sides of the mountains, which are usually lined with the peasantry of the country, who sally forth in great numbers, and go through infinite labour to partake and assist at the diversions, re-echoing from hill to hill, from rock to rock, inspire as lively a pleasure as the imagination can conceive to arise from the chase.

The stag, at last exhausted by the hot pursuit, wearied with the constant difficulty of

making way with his lofty antlers through the woods that everywhere oppose his flight—with the terrifying cry of his open-mouthed pursuers at his heels, and almost within sight; in the few critical moments which he now has to consult for his safety, he looks towards the lake as his only asylum, preferring drowning to being torn in pieces by his merciless enemies. Once more he looks upwards, but the hills are insurmountable; and the woods, so lately his favourite friends, now refuse him shelter; and as if in league with his inveterate foes, every way deny him a passage. A moment longer he stops; looks back; sees his destruction inevitable; the blood-hounds are at his heels; he hears yelling with redoubled fury at the sight of their destined victim. The choice must be instantly made; with tears of desperation he plunges into the lake. But, alas! his fate is fixed; his thread cut asunder; he escapes but for a few minutes from one merciless enemy, to fall into the hands of another equally uncompassionate and relentless. His antlers are his ruin—the shouting boatmen surround the unhappy swimmer in his way to the nearest island; they halter him, drag him into their boat, and then land with him in triumph. He dies an undeserved death. His spirit flies into the devil's punch-bowl (a very deep part of the lake), his flesh goes into a pasty, and thus ends our stag hunt.

A Long Run.

The most remarkable instance of the undeviating perseverance of a fox hound on record occurred in Scotland in 1808, near Dunkeld. On the 8th of June a fox and a hound were seen on the high road proceeding at a slow trotting pace. A countryman very easily caught the fox by running, and both the fox and the dog were taken to a gentleman's house in the neighbourhood, where the fox died. It was afterwards ascertained that the hound belonged to the Duke of Gordon, and that the fox was started on the morning of the king's birthday, on the top of the hills called Monaliadh, which separate Badenoch from Fort Augustus. From this it appeared that the chase lasted four days, and that the distance travelled from the place where the fox was unkenelled to the spot where it was caught, without making any allowance for doubles or crosses, and as the crow flies, exceeded seventy miles.

Crossing the Line.

When the decreasing degrees of latitude announce an Indianman's approach to the equator, it is amusing to remark the satisfaction with which all the crew (those only excepted who have not crossed it before), prepare for the celebrated naval pastime of Neptune's welcome. Should it be night when the imaginary line is passed, Neptune only hails the ship at the moment—that is to say, a person, generally the boatswain, habited to

represent Neptune, pretends to rise from the sea, and calling through a trumpet, desires to know what ship it is that dares to intrude upon his dominions? The officer of the watch immediately answers through another trumpet, that it is the good ship —, which having many of his visitors on board (who are, however, sadly in want of shaving), entreats a favourable voyage. The reply returned is, that his majesty will visit the ship early in the morning. Accordingly he arrives in a triumphal car, supported by his attendants. It draws up before the cuddy door, when his majesty having delivered a speech to the ladies, signifying his will that they shall be excused the operation of shaving, he retires, and the ceremony for the initiation of the male strangers commences. All who have not crossed the line before are compelled to remain below till called for, when, conducted by two of Neptune's attendants (or, as they are termed, constables), with a handkerchief tied across your eyes, you are led by these people to his serene majesty, who, after inquiring whence you came? for what purpose you are proceeding to India? and a few other equally trivial questions, desires his barber to do his duty. Being accordingly seated on a board, placed across a large tub full of water, Mr. Strap suddenly besmears your mouth and chin with a *quantum sufficit* of tar, and then pretends to shave it off with a piece of an iron hoop, notched as a saw. The rough operation being finished, the board on which you sit is dexterously slipped from under you, and you are plunged head and heels into the tub, from which having emerged as well as you can, the handkerchief is taken from your eyes, and you are saluted on all sides with tubs of water by those who have crossed before, and who, enjoying the fun, are mostly stationed on the poop for the express purpose. The ducking is continued until you seize a tub, and pelt again in your own defence. Thus ends this absurd and ridiculous ceremony, which, without the intervention of the captain, no passenger to India, should he not have previously crossed the line, can possibly avoid.

Elephant Catching.

In February, 1819, about three thousand persons were assembled in a place of rendezvous on the skirts of a jungle in India, in order to catch elephants. The haunts of several having been ascertained, a line of circumvallation was formed by the people, who were provided with firearms, tom-toms, &c. The line extended for several miles; each end reached a chain of hills, the passes through which had been previously stopped and guarded by parties of matchlock-men. The object of this line was to drive the elephants towards a particularly narrow place surrounded with steep hills, and in which there was abundance of food and water for several days. This, however, was not an easy task, as the elephants frequently attempted to force the lines, and get off to the

eastward; but the line gradually closed on them, and after halting every night, and keeping up large fires, after ten days' labour they succeeded in driving them into the preserve, where they were surrounded, and kept in for several days. In the meantime, at the debouche of this pass, several hundred people were busily employed digging a deep ditch, enclosing about a quarter of a mile of ground, leaving only the space of a few yards, as an entrance, untouched. On the outside of the ditch a matting of branches was placed, to give it a formidable and impassable appearance, and green bushes were placed at the entrance, to give it as much as possible the appearance of a jungle. When all this was completed, the people were removed from that place, and those at the other end commenced firing, shouting, and making as much noise as possible with drums and horns, which so intimidated the elephants that they made the best of their way to the opposite end; and the people following close, with the assistance of a few rockets, drove them straight into the enclosure, where the remaining part was dug away, and the ditch completed. People were immediately posted round the outside of the ditch, armed with long spears and matchlocks, to repel any attempt the elephants might make to cross it.

Next day eight tame elephants were introduced into the enclosure; the mahouts couched close on their necks, covered with dark cloths. The object of the tame ones was to separate one of the wild ones from the herd and mob him. When this was accomplished, four Kut mahouts, whose profession is to catch elephants, crept between the legs of the tame ones, and having fastened strong ropes to the legs of the wild fellow, secured him to the nearest tree. The Kut mahouts then retired towards the ditch, and the tame elephants, leaving the captive to his struggles, went after others.

In this way twenty-three elephants were captured in six days, without the parties engaged meeting with the slightest accident, to the great amusement of the spectators, who, perched on trees overhanging the enclosure, witnessed the sport without sharing in the danger. The sagacity of the tame elephants, the address and courage of the mahouts in approaching the wild ones, the anxious moments which passed from the cast of the first rope until the last band was tied, the rage of the animals upon finding themselves entrapped, and their astonishing exertions to get free, afforded altogether a scene of no ordinary novelty and interest.

Tiger Fight.

In India, tiger fights are by no means unfrequent. A square of fifty feet is fenced off with bamboo lattice-work, several feet high, in order to prevent the animal from leaping among the people, which has sometimes taken place. The tiger is placed in a cage on one side of the square, and an immense crowd of

spectators usually assemble outside the fence, impatiently waiting for the fight. Upon a given signal the tiger is driven into the area by fireworks. In a combat of this sort described by a recent traveller, a buffalo was first let in against the tiger; both animals appeared equally reluctant to engage, and watched each other most attentively. The tiger was again compelled to move by the fireworks, and the buffalo advanced two or three steps, on which the tiger again crouched. A dog was next thrown in, but the tiger seemed unwilling to attack even him. An elephant was next sent into the square, when the tiger retreating, uttered a cry of terror, and in despair he attempted to leap over the fence, but failed. The elephant, approaching by direction of his rider, attempted to throw himself on his knees upon the tiger, but he avoided this danger. The elephant in his turn became alarmed, and no exertion of his rider could induce him to repeat the attack; but advancing to the gate, he soon made a passage through it, to the terror of the spectators. The poor tiger, however, lay panting on the ground, without attempting to profit by the opportunity to escape. A second elephant was now turned in, but he proved as unsuccessful as the former one. The tiger at length facing his adversary, sprung upon his forehead, where he hung for some seconds, till the elephant, collecting all his might, with one violent jerk dashed him to the ground, where he lay unable to rise. The conqueror was satisfied with his victory, and turning quickly round, he rushed towards the fence with his tusks lifted up, and raised the whole framework, together with some persons who had climbed upon it. A scene of terror and confusion now followed, not to be described; the elephant, however, made his way through without injuring any person, and the tiger was too much exhausted to follow him.

Grand Indian Hunting Party.

The following interesting account of a grand pleasure excursion, in the year 1793, by the Nawab Usuf-ad-Dowlah of Lucknow, is from the pen of an English officer who attended his excellency. The sports of the field were never perhaps pursued on a scale of greater magnificence.

'We left Lucknow on the 4th of October, and directed our course towards Baraech; our *kafela*, or party, consisted of about 40,000 men and 20,000 beasts; composed of 10,000 soldiers, 100 cavalry, and nearly 150 pieces of cannon; 1500 elephants, 3000 carts or *hackeries*, and an innumerable train of camels, horses, and bullocks; great numbers of *rutts*, or covered carriages for women, drawn by oxen, which were filled with the nawab's ladies; many large and small boats, carried on carts drawn by fifty, forty, and thirty oxen each; tigers, leopards, and hawks; fighting cocks, fighting quails, and nightingales; pigeons, dancing women and boys; singers, players, buffoons, and mountebanks. In

short, his excellency had everything, every object which could please or surprise, attract admiration, fire with wonder, or convulse with laughter. About 500 coolies or porters were employed to carry his shooting apparatus, guns, powder, shot, &c.; he had above one thousand double-barrelled guns, the finest that Manton and Nock could make, single barrels, pistols, swords, and spears innumerable.

'Religion constrained him to stop some days at Baraech, to pay homage at the tomb of a celebrated saint named Salar Gazeec. From Baraech we proceeded towards Naupara, a small town in the first range of mountains commonly called the Common Hills, which extended from the eastern extremity of Bootan to Hurdwar, and divide Hindostan from Tibet and Nepal. Game of all sorts was destroyed every morning and evening, without number or distinction. His Excellency is one of the best marksmen I ever saw; it would be strange if he were not, as one day with another he fires above one hundred shots at every species of birds and animals. The first tiger we saw and killed was in the mountains; we went to attack him about noon; he was in a narrow valley, which the Nawab surrounded with about two hundred elephants; we heard him growl horribly in a thick bush in the middle of the valley; being accustomed to the sport, and very eager, I pushed in my elephant; the fierce beast charged me instantly; the elephant, a timid animal, turned tail, and deprived me of the opportunity to fire. I ventured again, attended by two or three other elephants; the tiger made a spring, and nearly reached the back of one of the elephants, on which were three or four men; the elephant shook himself so forcibly, as to throw these men off his back; they tumbled into the bush; I gave them up for lost, but was agreeably surprised to see them creep out unhurt. His Excellency was all this time on a rising ground near the thicket, looking on calmly, and beckoning on me to drive the tiger towards him. I made another attempt, and with more success; he darted out towards me on my approach, roaring furiously, and lashing his sides with his tail; I luckily got a shot, and hit him; he retreated into the bush, but ten or twelve elephants just then pushing forward, alarmed the tiger, and obliged him to run out towards the Nawab, who instantly gave him a warm reception; and with the assistance of some of his Omras or lords, laid the tiger sprawling on his side. A loud shout of *wha! wha!* proclaimed the victory.

'On elephants, there is no danger in encountering these savage beasts. I have been at the killing of above thirty tigers, and seldom saw any one hurt.

'The next sport we had of any magnitude, was the attack on a wild elephant, which we met a few days after the battle with the tiger. We espied him on a large plain overgrown with grass; the Nawab, eager for such diversions, immediately formed a semicircle with four hundred elephants, who were directed to

advance and encircle him. When we got within three hundred yards of the wild elephant, he looked amazed, but not frightened; two large *must* elephants (elephants in high rut, when they are usually bold and savage) were ordered to advance against him. When they approached within twenty yards, he charged them; the shock was dreadful; however, the wild one conquered, and drove the *must* elephants before him. As he passed us, the Nawab ordered some of the strongest female elephants with thick ropes to go alongside of him, and endeavour to entangle him with nooses and running knots; the attempt was vain, as he snapped every rope, and none of the tame elephants could stop his progress. The Nawab perceiving it impossible to catch him, ordered his death, and immediately a volley of above a hundred shots were fired. Many of the balls hit him, but he seemed unconcerned, and moved on towards the mountains. We kept up an incessant fire for nearly half an hour; the Nawab and most of his Omras used rifles which carried two or three ounce balls, but they made very little impression: the balls just entered the skin, and lodged there. I went up repeatedly, being mounted on a female elephant, within ten yards of the wild one, and fired my rifle at his head: the blood gushed out, but the skull was invulnerable. Some of the Khandahar horse galloped up to the wild elephant, and made cuts at him with their sabres; he charged the horsemen, wounded some, and killed others. Being now much exhausted with the loss of blood, having received above three thousand shots, and many strokes of the sabre, he slackened his pace, quite calm and serene, as if determined to meet his approaching end. I could not at this time refrain from pitying so noble an animal. The horsemen seeing him weak and slow, dismounted, and with their swords began a furious attack on the tendons of his hind legs; they were soon cut; unable to proceed, he staggered, and fell without a groan. The hatchet-men now advanced, and commenced an attack on his large ivory tusks, whilst the horsemen and soldiers with barbarous insult began a cruel assault to try the sharpness of their swords, display the strength of their arm, and show their invincible courage. The sight was very affecting; he still breathed, and breathed without a groan; he rolled his eyes with anguish on the surrounding crowd, and making a last effort to rise, expired with a sigh. The Nawab returned to his tents, as much flushed with vanity and exultation as Achilles, and the remainder of the day, and many a day after, were dedicated to repeated narrations of this victory, which was ornamented and magnified by all the combined powers of ingenious flattery and unbounded exaggeration.

Sooth'd with the sound, the prince grew vain.

Fought all his battles o'er again;

And thrice he routed all his foes, and thrice
he slew the slain.'

From the mountains, we directed our course towards Buckra Jeal, where we arrived on the 4th of December. Buckra Jeal is a large lake, about three miles in circumference at its most contracted size in the dry season, and about thirty miles in its extensive period, the rainy season; surrounded by thick and high grass at the foot of the Gorrackpoor hills; the jungle or wild which entwines the lake, is full of wild elephants, rhinoceroses, deer, and every species of aerial game. This was the place destined for the grand hunt, which we were daily taught to expect with pleasing anxiety by the florid descriptions of his Excellency. On the fifth of December, early in the morning, we were summoned to the sylvan war. A line of 1200 elephants was drawn up on the north of the lake facing to the east; and we proceeded rapidly through the high grass, with minds glowing with the expectation of the grand sport we should meet. Lay down your pipes, ye country squires, who boast in such pompous language the destruction of a poor Reynard or puss; and say in what terms you could convey an idea of the scene I saw, and now endeavour to describe! When we had arrived at the eastern extremity of the lake, we perceived a large flock of wild elephants feeding and gamboling at the foot of the mountains; I counted above 170. At this moment Mr. Conway, a gentleman in the Nawab's service, fell off his elephant, owing to the animal's stepping his forefoot into a concealed hole. Mr. Conway was much bruised, pale, and almost senseless; the Nawab stopped to put him into a palankeen, and sent him back to the encampment. This gave the wild elephants time to gaze on our dreadful front, and recover from their amazement; many of them scampered off towards the hills. The Nawab divided our line of 1200 elephants into four bodies, and sent them in pursuit of the wild ones, which they were to take or destroy. I kept with the division attached to the Nawab. The scene which ensued it is impossible to describe. The confusion, tumult, noise, firing, shrieking, and roaring of 1200 tame elephants, attacking and attacked by 170 wild ones, all "in terrible disorder tossed," formed a dreadful melange, which cannot be imagined by the most luxuriant fancy. There were above 10,000 shots fired from all quarters, and considering the confusion, I am surprised the scene was not more bloody on our side. About twenty men were killed and wounded, and near half a dozen horses. Many of our tame elephants, which were *must*, and brought to oppose the wild ones, were knocked down, bruised, pierced, and made to fly. The largest elephant we killed, was above ten feet high, (few taller are ever found) and would have sold for twenty thousand rupees if he had been caught. The four divisions caught at length twenty-one elephants, which we led to our encampment in high triumph. Their worth might be estimated at about 50,000 rupees; but amusement, and not gain, was our object.

From Buckra Jeal we came to Faizabad,

where we reposed for three weeks, to recover from the great fatigue we had undergone; after a gay scene of every species of oriental amusement and festive dissipation, we returned to Lucknow, having killed in our excursion eight tigers and six elephants; taken twenty-one elephants captive, and destroyed other sorts of game to an amount which defies enumeration.'

Skating.

Although the ancients excelled in most athletic sports, yet skating seems to have been unknown to them. It is not known when it made its appearance in England, but it is most probable that, as at present exercised, it was brought from the Low Countries, where it is said to have originated, and is much practised by all ranks of both sexes. The editors of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' tell us that Edinburgh has produced more instances of elegant skaters than perhaps any other country whatever; those, however, who have witnessed the rapidity and the dexterous evolutions of the London skaters will be somewhat unwilling to yield the palm to Edinburgh. 'I have seen,' says Strutt, 'when the Serpentine River in Hyde Park was frozen over, four gentlemen there dance, if I may be allowed the expression, a double minuet in skates, with as much ease, and, I think, with more elegance than in a ball-room; others, again, by turning and winding with great adroitness, have readily in succession described upon the ice the form of all the letters in the alphabet.' It is this very adroitness, however, which forms the exception to the London style of skating; it wants that bold sweep which is an essential requisite of gracefulness in this agreeable recreation. The Edinburgh editors allow that the English are 'remarkable for their feats of agility,' and ascribe their deficiency in grace partly to the construction of their skates. 'They are too much curved, it is said, in the surface which embraces the ice, consequently they involuntarily bring the users of them round on the outside upon a quick and small circle; whereas the skater by using skates less curved, has the command of his stroke, and can enlarge or diminish the circle, according to his own wish and desire.'

In America, as well as in Holland, skating is chiefly practised as an expeditious mode of travelling, when the rivers, canals, and lakes are frozen up during winter, and celerity is there the great point aimed at. The expedition with which journeys may be made in this way is extraordinary. A late *Boston Gazette* says, 'Four young gentlemen belonging to Boston travelled on skates a distance of nine miles in twenty-seven minutes, being at the rate of twenty miles an hour. *Let any one in the world beat this if they can!*' The challenge was made with good reason; but great as was the feat, it was, if not surpassed, at least fully equalled by a subsequent achievement of an English skater, who performed a mile in less than three minutes. The English performance was for a match of one hundred

guineas. The skater was a countryman of the name of Githam, living in the neighbourhood of the Cambridgeshire fens. He started a few seconds before the time, and came up to the scratch at the moment appointed, and performed the distance in seven seconds within the three minutes.

Such speed is marvellous, even when compared with that of the first racehorses. The Beacon course at Newmarket is four miles round, and is rarely performed in less than seven minutes fifteen or twenty seconds. The Flying Childers, indeed, for a considerable wager, being put to his utmost speed from the moment of starting, accomplished it in five minutes and seventeen seconds, a rate of speed more than double that of the swiftest skating ever known.

University Exercises.

By the original constitution, or laws and customs of the University of St. Andrew's, provision was made, as in the education of youth among the ancients, for certain gymnastic exercises. At the time when the university was founded, though the date of this was subsequent to the invention and the incipient use of gunpowder, the great weapon of war among the lowland Scots, as well as the English, was the bow and arrow; and archery was made an indispensable article of education in Scotland from the days of James I. This accomplished and wise prince made an act, forbidding the favourite diversion of football, and substituting in its place that of shooting with bows and arrows. Every boy, when he came to the age of thirteen, was obliged at stated times to practise archery at certain bow marks. It was, accordingly, among the statutes of both the colleges, St. Leonard and St. Salvator, that an annual prize of a silver arrow should be given out of the public funds to the best marksman, on a competition in archery. In a little dell formed by some knolls, now about half a mile from the town, but formerly almost contiguous to a street now in ruins, butts were erected, and from time to time repaired. Seats were cut or carved in the greensward, on either side of the dell, opposite to the space between the butts, and rose, in different rows, above one another, like the benches in a theatre. In this natural amphitheatre, the university and town of St. Andrew's, gentlemen and ladies, high and low, witnessed the annual contest among the archers for the prize of the silver arrow, in the last week of the month of March. The youth who entered the lists were trained for the contest by shooting as often as they had leisure and inclination beforehand. When the day arrived for the trial, they appeared generally from the number of five or six to eight or ten, equipped in the ancient Scottish dress; but their vests, which were short, like those of the Highland regiments and light infantry, of different colours, according to the livery of their respective families, white, red, green, yellow, &c. These knights were attended each with his armour-

bearer, carrying a quiver full of arrows. It will easily be imagined that it was not among the poorer class of students that candidates appeared for the prize of the silver arrow. In fact, a silver arrow, and that a pretty massive one, was actually given to the victor, for more than two centuries, as the arrows so acquired to this day testify, yet it afterwards became customary, among other refinements in the progress of the human mind, for the victors (not, we may presume, without the approbation, at least, of the regents, or masters, who had the management of the college funds), instead of receiving a silver arrow, to affix a silver ball to what came to be called THE arrow, with their name, coat of arms, and the date of the year when the prize was obtained. All the other rival archers accompanied the victor to his lodgings, where, together with as many of his friends as he chose to invite, they were entertained with a cold collation. In a procession through the principal streets in the town, or rather the principal parts of these streets, in their way from the butts to the apartments of the victor, passing the houses of the principals, professors, and others, gentlemen or ladies, to whom they were desirous of showing a mark of respect, they let fly volleys of arrows, as soldiers of our times, on certain occasions, stand to their arms, or give a *feu de joie*. The day of shooting for the arrow was, of course, a great holiday.

The candidates for the honours of archery, assembled about ten o'clock at the dwelling-house of the rector of the university, who, with the other professors, marched before them to the butts; the maces of the university and the silver arrow, and as many of the appended silver balls as could be conveniently carried by one man, going before them. A few ball was hooked to a silver chain attached to the arrow by the victor, in the course of which remained of the session. This custom is now entirely abolished.

Wrestling.

The art of wrestling, which made a considerable figure in the Olympic Games, and in the ages of chivalry, was accounted one of the accomplishments which a hero ought to possess, is now chiefly confined to the lower classes of society. The citizens of London, who formerly took the lead in manly sports, were said to have been expert in wrestling; and annually, upon St. James's day, they made a public trial of their skill. In the sixth year of the reign of Henry the Third, they held their anniversary meeting for this purpose near the hospital of St. Matilda, St. Giles-in-the-Fields, where they were met by the inhabitants of the city and suburbs of Westminster, and a ram was appointed for the prize, which was customary in those days, as we learn from Chaucer. The Londoners were victorious, having greatly excelled their antagonists, which produced a challenge from the conquered party to renew the contest upon Lammas-day following, at Westminster.

The citizens of London readily accepted the challenge, and met them at the time appointed; but in the midst of the diversion the Bailiff of Westminster and his associates took occasion to quarrel with the Londoners; a battle ensued, and many of the latter were severely wounded in their retreat to the city. This unjustifiable quarrel of the bailiff gave rise to a more serious tumult, and it was several days before the peace could be restored.

Stow relates that it was the custom formerly, about the Feast of St. Bartholomew, for the lord mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs to repair to Clerkenwell, where a large tent was placed, and several days were spent in the pastime of wrestling; 'where the officers of the city, namely, the sheriffs, serjeants, and yeomen, and others of the city, were challengers of all men in the suburbs, to wrestle for games appointed; and on other days before the said mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs, in Finsbury Field, to shoot the standard broad arrow and flight, for games.'

Great Exploits.

In France the game was formerly so plentiful that, according to Mr. Young, there was in the open fields about Mongeron, upon an average, a covey of birds in every two acres, besides favourite spots, in which they much more abounded. On the last day which the unfortunate Louis XVI. enjoyed in the field, he himself shot 572 head of game in eight hours.

The feats of a royal party from Vienna, in the Bohemian territories, in 1753, which continued twenty days, is a curious record of slaughtered game; it gives the names of the twenty-three sportsmen and sportswomen, and gives the list of game killed by each, commencing with stags, roebucks, boars, foxes, &c. The emperor himself had the greatest number of shots, namely, 9794, of which 978 were in one day. Her Imperial Highness the Princess Charlotte was in the field every day, on one of which she fired 889 times. The total number of shots was 116,231, and the game killed, 47,950.

In the year 1758, the Emperor Francis I. had a grand shooting party on the estates of the Prince Colleredo, in Bohemia, which lasted eighteen days. The party consisted of three princesses and twenty noblemen, besides the emperor and prince. They killed, after firing 116,200 shots, 1710 stags; 3216 fawns and deer; 932 foxes; 13,243 hares; 29,545 partridges; 9409 pheasants; 746 larks; 1353 quails; 1967 woodcocks; 513 wild turkeys; 117 wild fowl, and various other birds.

At a hunting match given by the Prince Esterhazy, the Regent of Hungary, on signing the treaty of peace with France, in a single day's sport, there were killed 160 deer; 100 wild boars; 300 hares; and eighty foxes.

The king of Naples, in a sporting journey to Vienna, in 1793, through Austria, Bohemia, &c., killed five bears; 1820 boars; 1960 deer; 114 does; 1620 roebucks; 1121 rabbits; thirty

teen wolves; seventeen badgers; 16,354 hares; and 354 foxes; the sporting monarch had also the pleasure of doing a little in the bird way, by killing upon the same expedition 15,350 pheasants, and 12,335 partridges.

As shots in the field at game, Mr. Jenkins, near Petworth; and Cottingham, who was formerly gamekeeper to Lord Rous, were the best of their day. The former has killed twenty brace of partridges in a day at forty shots, without selecting the shots, but taking them fairly as they happened; and in four days' shooting has never missed. The latter, (says Mr. Daniel, in his excellent work, the 'Rural Sports') I was out with when he killed in two days forty-three successive shots (many of them in covert) at partridge, pheasant, woodcock, and hare; and his style of shooting when open, and he could give time, was most regularly deliberate.

In 1810, John Lacy, Esq., of Wimborne Minster, shot in one day thirty brace of partridges, ten brace of hares, and twelve couple of rabbits. His day's sport was from sunrise to four o'clock.

Lord Kingston made a considerable bet that he would shoot forty brace of partridges on the 1st of September, on his manor at Heydon. His lordship shot forty-one brace and a half before sunset.

In 1811, Mr. S. Clark, of Worlingham in Suffolk, engaged for a bet of fifty guineas to kill and bag forty-seven shots out of fifty. He killed the first forty-eight, missed the forty-ninth; killed the fiftieth, and continued shooting until he killed the ten following, making sixty shots, with the loss of only one bird.

His Grace the Duke of Rutland is very fond of field sports, and is deemed an admirable shot. One day in October, 1815, this nobleman, when shooting at Cheveley Park, killed not fewer than a hundred and twenty-five head of game in the course of five hours. These were forty-one partridges; nineteen pheasants; forty-three hares; and twenty-two rabbits.

Ram-Hunting at Eton College.

The celebrated antiquary, the Rev. Mr. Cole, in one of his MSS. which he bequeathed to the British Museum, gives the following account of a singular sport at Eton College about the middle of the last century. 'When I was at Eton College,' he says, 'there was a custom at election time, about the beginning of August, to hunt a ram from the college play fields as far as he would run, sometimes to Windsor Park wall, over the bridge, the boys having a ram bludgeon, or stick knotted by ivy having grown about it; numbers of which are sold from the neighbouring woods; with these they used to knock the ram down. The late Duke of Cumberland honoured one of these huntings with his presence. The ram was afterwards made into a pasty and served up in the hall in the feastings of election week, probably more venison than mutton

put into it. What gave occasion to this singular custom I never heard; but a practice somewhat similar is still preserved at Orleans, where the Lord of the Manor of Bapaume presents a ram to the Dean of the Collegiate Church of St. Peter en Ponct, on the eve of the Ascension.' Mr. Cole gives as his authority the following extract from *Voyages Liturgiques de France, par le Sieur Moleon*. 'Le Seigneur de Bapaume de la paroisse d'Ouvrouer des Champs est obligé de présenter, et présente encore, au Doyen de St. Pierre en Ponct tous les ans la veille de l'Ascension, pendant le Magnificat de Vêpres un belier suranné vêtu de sa laine, ayant les cornes dorées, auxquelles doivent être attachés deux écussons aux Armes de St. Pierre, et une bourse pendue au cou, dans laquelle il doit y avoir cinq sols Parisis. Il est présenté non dans l'Eglise, mais dans le cloître au côté gauche de l'Eglise.'

Innocent Sportsmen.

In the sporting season of 1784, on the day before one of the annual parties at Clumber broke up, two sets of sportsmen went out each consisting of three persons, and a bet was laid which should kill most game. Lord Lincoln, General Philips, and Captain Lascelles, were the one party; and their antagonists were the Rev. Mr. Lascelles, Mr. Cotton, and Lieutenant-Colonel Strickland. It was calculated that, on an average, each man of the six got sixty shots. The winning triumvirate killed—*three* birds!

In 1806, four gentlemen of Camberwell undertook for a wager of five guineas a-side to shoot at twelve pigeons, and great bets were depending; but to the great amusement of the persons assembled to witness the determination of the wager, not one of the competitors brought down a single bird!

Pigeon Shooting.

As a mode of deciding the skill of the candidates, pigeon shooting is perhaps the least objectionable, since every shooter has an equal chance as to the distance whence the bird is sprung; but it certainly is not the species of shooting that a sportsman will try or fancy as an amusement; besides, the mind that thinks at all, must feel a repugnance to the idea of first confining, and then wantonly shooting hundreds of domestic birds.

In pigeon shooting, the most extraordinary performance was by Tupor, the gamekeeper of Sir H. Mildmay, who, for a considerable wager, shot six pigeons out of ten, with a common ball. He afterwards, to decide a bet, hit a cricket ball, with common shot, twelve times successively, betwixt the wickets, bowled by Harris, one of the sharpest bowlers in the Hambleton Club. He is also said to have killed swallows with a single ball.

Mr. Elliot, at Rudgwick in Sussex, undertook to kill fifty pigeons at fifty shots; the match was decided near Petworth, at Tillingham.

ton, and notwithstanding the wind was high, he killed forty-five. It was allowed that he hit every bird, and that he would have won his wager, but for the above circumstance. He had but one gun, the touch-hole of which was fairly melted.

In 1809, Mr. King, a celebrated pigeon shot, undertook, for fifty guineas, to kill eighteen birds from a trap at twenty-one yards' distance from the gun, which he performed with a bird to spare.

Mr. Keen, of Hammersmith, killed twenty pigeons in twenty-one shots, from a trap at the regular distance of twenty-one yards; and in March, 1811, he, in a match against Mr. Elliot, killed the same number, beating his antagonist by one.

In Wiltshire, during the same year, Captain Hicks shot against the gamekeeper of Mr. Maurice at fifteen pigeons, turned off at twenty-one yard's distance. They both killed very shot, and in shooting off the ties, the former missed his sixth bird, and lost the match, which was for two hundred guineas.

Marksmen.

Montaigne relates, that, 'an offer was made to an excellent archer, condemned to die, that his life should be saved, if he would show some proof of his art; but he refused to try, fearing lest his agitation should make him shoot wide, and that instead of preserving his life, he should lose the reputation he had got for being a good marksman.'

Of the precision with which the Americans manage the rifle, Priest, in his 'Travels in America,' gives the following account, which must be confessed partakes of the marvelous. He says, 'during the late war, in 1775, a company of riflemen, formed from the backsmen of Virginia, was quartered at Lancaster, in New England, for some time. Two of them alternately held a board only nine inches square, between his knees, while his comrades fired a ball through it, from a distance of one hundred paces! The board is still preserved; and I am assured by several who were present, that it was performed without any manner of deception.'

In October, 1812, James Westwick, the keeper of Sir Henry Vane Tempest, being in a gun-room at Wynyard, Durham, a hare was observed from the window, at a considerable distance, which, by the particular desire of Sir Henry, the keeper shot at, and killed with a ball, at a distance of one hundred and fifty-five yards.

An Elephant Hunt.

In the year 1818, two elephants of uncommon size made their appearance within a few hundred yards of the British cantonments at Hazarabang in India, the inhabitants of which were in the greatest alarm. The commanding officer of the Ramghur battalion immediately took measures for their destruction,

which he thus details in a letter to the magistrates of the division: 'I lost no time in despatching all the public and private elephants at the station in pursuit of them; and at daybreak of the 25th was informed, that their very superior size, and apparent fierceness, had rendered all attempts for their seizure unavailable, and that the most experienced driver was dangerously wounded, the elephant on which he rode having been struck to the ground by one of the wild ones, which, with its companion, had afterwards retreated to a sugar plantation, adjoining the village of Jusipoor. I immediately ordered out the guns of this place; but very desirous, in the first instance, to try every means of catching them, I assembled the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, with the assistance of Rajah Ragnaut Sing, and caused two deep pits to be prepared on the edge of the sugar-cane plantation, in which our elephants and people, with the utmost difficulty, contrived to retain these animals during the day. When the pits were reported ready, we repaired to the spot, and they were with much difficulty driven into them; but unfortunately, one of the pits did not prove sufficiently deep, and the elephant that escaped from it (in the presence of many witnesses) assisted his companion out with his trunk; both were, however, brought back with much trouble to the sugar-cane plantation, and no particular instance of vice or fierceness having appeared in the course of the day, I was anxious to make another trial to catch them. The pioneers, therefore, set to work to deepen the old, and prepare new holes, against daybreak, when I proposed making the final attempt. At four o'clock of the morning yesterday, however, they burst through all my guards, and making for a village three miles distant, entered with so much rapidity, that the horsemen who galloped in front of them, had not time to apprise the inhabitants of their danger; and I regret to say, that one man was torn limb from limb, a child trodden to death, and two women wounded. Their destruction was now become absolutely necessary, and as they appeared to show no inclination to quit the village, we gained time to bring up the four-pounders, from which they soon received round shot, and abundance of grape each. The largest of the two was soon brought to the ground by a round shot in the head, but after remaining there a quarter of an hour, apparently lifeless, he got up as vigorous as ever, and the desperation of both exceeded all description; they made repeated charges nearly within one hundred yards of the guns, and had it not been for the uncommon steadiness and bravery of the artillerymen (who more than once turned them off by a shot in the head when within a few yards of them), many casualties must have happened.

We were now obliged to desist for want of ammunition and shot; and before a fresh supply could be obtained, the elephants quitted the village, and though streaming with blood from one hundred wounds, proceeded, with a rapidity of which before I had

no idea, to Hazarabang. They were at length brought up by the horsemen, and our elephants, when within a very short space of a crowder (bazaar), and ultimately, after many renewals of the most formidable attacks on the guns, they gave up the contest with their lives. Nineteen four-pound shot have already been taken out of their bodies, and I imagine that eighteen more will be found. I have been thus particular, both because I think the transaction worthy of being recorded, and also from a hope that you will concur with me in the propriety of an application to government for a compensation for the damage suffered by the owners of the villages of Jusipoor and Ored, from the destruction of much grain, &c. I am of opinion, the animals must have escaped from Hydrabad, or some part of the Deccan, for I have never heard of, or seen, animals of this size in this part of India.

Coursing.

The amusement of coursing is of great antiquity, and is treated of by Arrian, who lived in the year 150. It was first practised by the Gauls, the most luxurious and opulent of whom used to send out good hare-finders early in the morning, who returning to their employers with an account of their success, they mounted their horses, and took their greyhounds to course them, but never ran more than a brace at a time. Coursing has been always a favourite sport with the English, and many British sovereigns have indulged in it.

The high spirit and courage of the greyhound has frequently shown itself in extraordinary exertions. In November, 1792, Lord Egremont's gamekeeper was leading a brace of greyhounds coupled together; a hare crossed the road, and the dogs instantly broke from their conductor and gave chase, fastened as they were to each other. When the hare was turned, she had a manifest advantage, and embarrassed the dogs to change their direction; notwithstanding this, she was at length killed, after a course of between three and four miles. In October, 1796, a similar occurrence took place in Scotland, where a brace of greyhounds coupled, coursed a hare a mile and killed her.

The uncommon ardour and velocity of greyhounds have often occasioned their destruction. An instance of this occurred many years ago to a famous dog belonging to the Rev. Mr. Corseillis, who chanced to be wind-bound at Dover. A hare in the neighbourhood had beat all her pursuers, when this dog was tried against her. He was so superior in speed, and pressed her so closely, that she ran for the cliff as her only chance of escaping; but the greyhound threw at and caught her at the brink, and went with the hare in his mouth to the bottom of the precipice, where they were both literally dashed to pieces.

In December, 1794, a company of gentlemen were coursing at Finchfield in Essex; a hare was started, and a brace of greyhounds

in turning her, ran against each other, and were both killed on the spot.

In 1797, a brace of greyhounds belonging to Mr. N. Toud, coursed a hare over the edge of a chalk-pit at Offham, Sussex, where both hare and dogs were found dead at the bottom.

Extraordinary Chase.

Many years since, a stag was hunted from Whinfield Park, in the county of Westmoreland, until by fatigue or accident, the whole pack was thrown out, except two fox-hounds bred by Lord Thanet, who continued the chase during the greatest part of the day. The stag returned to the park whence he had been driven, and as his last effort, leaped the wall and died as soon as he had accomplished it. One of the hounds ran to the wall, but being unable to get over it, laid down and almost instantly expired. The other hound was found dead about half a mile from the park. The length of this chase is uncertain; but as they were seen at Red-kirk near Annan, Scotland, distant by the post road about forty-six miles, it is conjectured that the circuitous course they took, could not make the distance run less than one hundred and twenty miles!

Leaping for Life.

In the New Forest, is a celebrated spot called the deer leap, where a stag was once shot. In the agony of death, collecting all his strength, he gave a bound which so surprised those that saw it, that it is commemorated by two posts at each extremity of the leap, the distance between being rather more than eighteen yards.

Sir Robert Walpole.

Sir Robert Walpole was from his youth fond of field sports, and retained his attachment to them, until prevented by the infirmities of age from their further enjoyment. Upon receiving a packet of letters, he usually opened them from his gamekeeper first; and in the portrait painted of him, he preferred being drawn in his sporting dress.

Professor Saunderson.

The celebrated professor of mathematics at Cambridge, Nicholas Saunderson, though quite blind, was so fascinated with the chase, that he continued to hunt until a very advanced period of his life. His horse was accustomed to follow that of his servant; the delight of Saunderson was extreme, when he heard the cry of the hounds and the hunters, and he used to express his raptures with all the eagerness of those who possessed their sight.

Sir Matthew Hale.

The distinguished lawyer, Sir Matthew Hale, when young, delighted much in company; and being strong and robust, he was a great master of all those exercises that required much strength. He also learned to fence, and became so expert in the use of his rapier, that he worsted many of the professors of the art. One of his masters told him he could teach him no more, for he was now better at his own trade than himself. This Sir Hale looked on as flattery: so to make his master discover himself, he promised him to leave his house he lived in, for he was his tenant, if he could hit him a blow on the head; and bade him do his best, for he would be as good as his word. After a little engagement, his master being naturally superior to him, made a palpable hit on his head. Mr. Hale performed his promise; and gave him the house freely; and was not unwilling at that rate to learn so early to distinguish flattery from plain and simple truth.

Indian War Dance.

The war dances of the American Indians have nothing engaging in them, their object being to strike terror in the beholders. They are dressed and painted, or rather bedaubed with paint, in a manner suitable to the occasion. They hold the murderous weapon in their hand, and imitate, in their dance, all the unlike attitudes, motions, and actions, which are usual in an engagement with the enemy, and strive to excel each other by their terrific looks and gestures. They generally perform under a painted post set up for that purpose, in a large room or place enclosed or surrounded with posts, and roofed with the bark of trees; sometimes also this dance is executed in the open air. There every man presents himself in warrior's array, contemptuously looking upon the painted post, as if it was the enemy whom he is about to engage; when he passes by it, he strikes, stabs, grasps, and tends to scalp, to cut, to run through; in short, endeavours to show what he could do to a real enemy, if he had him in his power.

Spanish Bull Fights.

Bull fights were formerly reduced to a science in Spain, and there is a book written on the subject, by one of the torreadors. The manner in which the fights were exhibited, was not of circus, with seats round it, placed above the other. The entertainment began by the parade of the piccadores (picadors), dressed in the full Spanish costume, and the chulos, those who fought on foot, and the arena. After a short time, an alguazil, in a black robe and large wig, made his appearance, and asking the governor, or alcaide, when the combat should begin, gave the appointed signal, and then made a voluntary retreat. The door of the shed which

contained the bull was then opened, and the noble animal appeared. Stunned by the noisy exclamations of the spectators, and instantly attacked by the lancers with their long lances, he rushed boldly to the combat. If it happened, as was frequently the case, that a horse should first become his prey, the danger of his rider was averted by the men on foot, who, shaking various coloured stuffs before the bull, attracted his attention, and dexterously avoided the danger which it was now their turn to brave. The lancers, after tormenting the poor animal for some time, left him to those on foot, who required all their agility to escape his rage, which was considerably augmented, by their plunging into his neck, by two and two, a kind of arrow, ornamented with various coloured papers. This barbarous sport having been continued for some time, the spectators gave the word of command for his release, by calling the torreador, who alone approached the now exhausted, but still undaunted animal. The torreador held in one hand a kind of banner, which he shook before him; in the other, a sword; and while this single combat continued, the voices of the spectators gradually subsided into a suspensive and awful calm. The decisive blow being given, shouts of applause celebrated the triumph of the torreador over a noble and (until provoked) inoffensive animal. In some instances, however, the most skilful torreadors have fallen victims to the rage of the bull. Three mules, ornamented with bells and streamers, were then brought in, and being fastened to the horns of the prostrate bull, dragged him from the scene of blood, to make room for another devoted victim.

Although bull fights were formally abolished by Charles IV., yet they are still retained in many parts of Spain. A British officer, who served in the war of the Peninsula, thus describes a bull fight, which he witnessed in the square of Truxillo.

A few minutes after seven o'clock in the evening, five Spaniards, who were to fight the bulls, appeared in the square, each provided with a brown cloak in the left hand, and a pike in the right. These having taken their posts, one of the bulls was turned out, who, on making his *débüt*, looked furiously wild, while the air rung with the acclamations of a delighted populace. The honest bull had no idea that such a reception awaited him, as, in all his former perambulations, no one had deigned to notice him. He gazed on the passing scene with wonder. In a few minutes he became quite furious. Perceiving an opening under one of the waggons at the lower part of the square, he darted towards it, in hopes of obtaining his liberty. The wagon was crowded with men and women, who, at the animal's approach, were precipitated, in curious and truly laughable attitudes, from their exalted station, to the same level with the object of their fears. For a time, every eye was turned to the scene of confusion, anxiously waiting the result of the grand charge of the courageous animal. At this

momentous crisis, so big with the fate of many, the Spanish heroes advanced to meet their antagonist, and with savage bellowing, stopped him short in his victorious career. To one of his tormentors he turned with death-like fury; and on his head seemed determined to wreak his utmost vengeance. The object of his hatred he pursued with such speed, that everyone thought the life of the Spaniard would be forfeited to his temerity. But well the wily Don knew that the bull could be deceived; and, to show us that such was the fact, he permitted the mad animal to get so close, as to make an attempt to toss him on his horns. Thus situated, the Spaniard had recourse to his cloak, which he threw at the head of the bull, who fancying the man in his power, stopped, and tossed it in the air. The other four were not idle during this rencontre between their friend and the bull. Having come to his assistance, one of them inflicted a wound in the hip of the poor brute, and made the best of his way to a place of safety, hotly pursued by his enemy, till stopped by the cloak of the fugitive, and the pikes of the others, as before. In this manner the fight continued, till the creature was completely exhausted, unable to shake his head, or raise a foot. In this state he was removed, to make room for a second, who afforded no sport whatever.

The eagerness of the Spaniards to witness this sanguinary amusement, may be judged of from the circumstance, that the produce of the seats will sometimes produce upwards of 120,000 rials in the course of a single day; the profits on which are singularly enough applied to support the public hospitals in Madrid.

In Portugal, where bull fights are not uncommon, the principal cavalier, or hero of this barbarous sport, rushes between the horns of the bull; an act that requires considerable agility, great presence of mind, and an uncommon share of muscular strength. In this posture he is carried about the ring by the enraged animal, amidst the shouts of the audience, until the rest of the combatants rescue him, by overthrowing the bull, which becomes their property.

Cock-Fighting.

It is not known when the barbarous pastime of cock-fighting was introduced into England; but it is supposed to have been brought hither by the Romans. The bird was here before the time of Cæsar's arrival; but no notice of his fighting occurs earlier than the time of William Fitzstephen, who wrote the life of Archbishop Becket some time in the reign of Henry II., and describes the cocking as a sport of schoolboys on Shrove Tuesday. From this time at least the diversion was a popular one in England. It continued to be followed, though disapproved, and even prohibited by the 39th of Edward III., and by several subsequent statutes. The law on the subject proved quite inoperative, and sovereigns

themselves were found to countenance its violation. The cockpit at Whitehall, as everyone knows, was erected by a crown head, for the more magnificent celebration of the pastime; which has hence by some been called a *royal diversion*.

With the Greeks, who are said to have originated the game, it was at first partly religious, and partly a political institution designed to create in the minds of their youth the beginnings of martial pride and love of glory; but with the English, it has never been anything else than a common pastime, as destitute of usefulness as it is of humanity.

The reproach incurred by the use of the pastime in England, is greatly aggravated by two sorts of fighting, which are known nowhere else in the world, called the *battle royal*, and the *Welch main*; neither in China, nor in Persia, nor in Malacca, nor among the savage tribes of America. In the battle royal an unlimited number of fowls are pitted, and when they have slaughtered one another for the diversion of the otherwise generous and humane Englishmen, the single surviving bird is to be esteemed the victor and carries away the prize. The Welch main consists, we will suppose, of sixteen pair of cocks; of these, the sixteen conquerors are pitted a second time; the eight conquerors then pitted the third time; the four conquerors, the fourth time; and lastly, the two conquerors of these are pitted the fifth time, so that (incredible barbarity!) thirty-one cock are sure to be cruelly murdered, for the sport and pleasure of men, who would regard it as an high affront to be accused of want of either feeling or morality. But let the feeling and morality of such persons be appreciated by the following shocking circumstance recorded in an authentic in the Obituary of the 'Gentleman's Magazine,' for April, 1789. 'Died, April 17, at Tottenham, John Ardesoif, Esq., a young man of large fortune, and in the splendour of his carriages and horses, rivalled by few country gentlemen. His table was that of hospitality, where it may be said he sacrificed too much to conviviality; but if he had his foibles, he had his merits also, that far outweighed them. Mr. Ardesoif was very fond of cock fighting, and had a favourite cock upon which he had won many profitable matches. The last bet he laid upon his cock he lost; which so enraged him, that he had the bird tied to a spit, and roasted alive before a large fire. The screams of the miserable animal were so affecting, that some gentlemen who were present, attempted to interfere, which so enraged Mr. Ardesoif, that he seized the poker, and with the most furious vehemence, declared that he would kill the first man who interposed; but in the midst of his passionate assertions, he fell down dead upon the spot. Such, we are assured, were the circumstances which attended the death of this great pillar of humanity!'

The massacre of Shrove Tuesday is now, we are happy to say, in a declining state, and in a few years, it is to be hoped, will be wholly abandoned; but the cockpit still

continues a reproach to the humanity of Englishmen, and to their religion, one of the purest, tenderest, and most compassionate, ever professed by a people.

Playing for a Benefice.

The Chancellor of France, D'Aguesseau, was very fond of chess, and used to play for half a crown a game, with the best player of his time, M. Legalle. The latter once proposed deep play to the chancellor, which he explained to be a living at Vincennes, that he wished to procure for an Abbé of his acquaintance. The chancellor immediately took the move, and in pushing his pawn, said, '*va l'Abbé.*' M. de Legalle soon got the advantage, but did not choose to win the game; which the chancellor told him should not, however, prejudice his friend, and he accordingly gave him the benefice.

Philidor.

André Danican Philidor, a native of Dreux, near Paris, is allowed to have been the most skillful chess-player of whom there is any record. He first learned the rudiments of the game when he was only six years of age, and one of the children belonging to the Chapel Royal at Versailles. In after life, he became enamoured of it, as to abandon his profession of a musician for that of a chess-player. He first distinguished himself at Paris, when only eighteen years of age, in playing two games at the same time, without seeing the boards; and beating two antagonists, to three of whom he, though a first-rate player, could only give the advantage of a knight, when he played with them singly, and saw the board. In the middle of one of these games a false move was designedly made, which, after a great number of moves, he discovered, and placed the piece where it ought to have been at first.

Forty years after this, he played two different times in London, three games at once. The first time was in May, 1783, at the Chess Club in St. James' Street. His opponents were Count Bruhl, Mr. Bowdler, and Mr. Maseres; the two first allowed to be the best players in London. Although he played with these gentlemen at the same time, and never saw the board, yet he defeated Count Bruhl in an hour and twenty minutes, and Maseres in two hours; Mr. Bowdler reduced his game to a drawn battle in an hour and three quarters. The other match was with Count Bruhl, Mr. Jennings, and Mr. Lord Erskine, to the last of whom he gave a pawn and the move. The Count drew a drawn game, and both the other gentlemen lost.

The best players with whom Philidor ever played, were his master, M. de Legalle in Paris, and Sir Abraham Janssen in England, who was able to win one game out of four of him, even playing.

Horse-Racing.

The amusement of horse-racing was practised in England in very early times; indeed there is some reason to believe that it was among the pastimes of the Anglo-Saxons, as Hugh Capet sent several *running horses* as a present to Edelswitha, the sister of Athelstan. Fitzstephen mentions horse-racing as a favourite diversion with the citizens of London; and as a proof that in the middle ages there were certain seasons of the year when the nobility indulged themselves in this sport, we are told, in the metrical romance of 'Sir Bevis of Southampton,' that at Whitsuntide the knights

'A cours let they make on a daye,
Steedes and palfreye for to assaye,
Which horse that best may ren.'

In the reign of Elizabeth, race-horses were prized on account of their breed; and the sport was carried to such an excess, as to injure the fortunes of many of the nobility. Private matches, in which the gentlemen were their own jockies, were then very common. In the reign of James the First, public races were established in many parts of the kingdom; and it appears that the discipline and modes of preparing the horses upon such occasions, were much the same as are practised in the present day. In the latter part of the reign of Charles the First, races were held in Hyde Park and at Newmarket. After the Restoration, horse-racing was revived and much encouraged by Charles the Second, who frequently honoured the pastime with his presence; and when he resided at Windsor, appointed races at Datchet Mead, for his own amusement. Newmarket, however, soon became the principal place, where the king entered horses, and ran them in his own name, and established a house for his better accommodation.

In the horse-races in Italy, the horses run without riders; and to urge them on, little balls with sharp points in them are hung to their sides, which, when the horse is employed in the race, act like spurs; they have also pieces of tinfoil fastened on their hinder parts, which, as the animals run, make a loud rustling noise, and frighten them forward. A gun is fired when they first start, that preparations may be made to receive them at the other end; when they have run half way, another gun is fired, and a third when they arrive at the goal. To ascertain without dispute which horse wins the race, a thread is stretched across the winning post, dipped in red lead, which the victor breaking, it leaves a red mark on his chest, and this mark is decisive. To guard the course, a great number of soldiers under arms, are ranged on each side from one end of it to the other.

In Persia, horse-racing has always been deemed an amusement worthy of the particular patronage of the king; and there are annual races, not only in the capital, but in all the principal cities of the kingdom. The distance they have to run, is according to the age of the horses; but it is seldom less than

seven miles, or more than twenty-one. The object of these races is not so much to try the speed, as the strength of the horses, and to discover those that can be depended on for long and rapid marches. The horses are always rode by boys, between the ages of twelve and fourteen. Mares never run at the races in Persia, nor are they used in that country for military purposes.

Trifling.

The puerility of the Javanese in matters of amusement is remarkable. They do not disdain to be amused by a battle between two warlike crickets, nor hesitate to bet considerable sums on the result. The little animals are excited to the combat by the titillation of a blade of grass applied to their noses.

The Javanese will risk their money on the strength and hardness of a particular nut, called the hamiri; and much skill, patience, and dexterity are consumed in the selection and the strife. At other times, the combat which is to decide the fortune of the parties, is between two paper kites; the object in this strife being the fall of the adversary's kite by the destruction of its string. In a favourable day, fifty or sixty of these will be seen hovering over a Javanese city.

A Ducking at Duck-Shooting.

The mud-land plains on the coast of Hampshire abound with wild ducks, which often tempt the fowlers to run great dangers. In order to prevent their sinking in the mud, they tie to their feet flat pieces of wood, with which they traverse more safely. A fowler thus equipped, and traversing the plain with great eagerness, suddenly found that the waters, which had rushed out with uncommon rapidity, owing to some peculiar circumstance of tide and current, had made an alarming progress around him. Incumbered as his feet were, he could not much exert himself; and to whatever part he ran, he found himself completely surrounded by the tide. In this dangerous situation, he retired to that part of the plain which seemed the highest, from its being yet uncovered by water, and striking the barrel of his gun (which for the purpose of shooting wild fowl was very long) deep into the mud, he determined to hold fast by it, as a support, as well as a security against the waves, and thus to wait the ebbing of the tide. In the mean time, the water making a rapid advance, had now reached him. It covered the ground on which he stood; it rippled over his feet, it gained his knees, his waist; but after but a short time, he disappeared, till at last it advanced over his very shoulders. With a palpitating heart he gave himself up for lost. Still, however, he held fast by his anchor. His eye was eagerly in search of some boat, which might accidentally take its course that way, but none appeared. A solitary head floating over the water, and

that sometimes covered by a wave, was no object to be descried from the shore, at the distance of half a league; nor could he utter any sounds of distress that could be heard so far. While he was thus reconciling himself to sudden destruction, his attention was called to a new object; he thought he saw the uppermost button of his coat beginning to appear. No mariner floating on a wreck could behold a cape at sea with greater transport than he did this button; but the fluctuation of the water was such, and the return of the tide so slow, that it was some time before he durst venture to assure himself that the button was fairly above the level of the flood. At length, however, a second button appearing at intervals, his joy gave him spirits, and resolution to support his situation four or five hours longer, till the water had fairly retired, and he could walk home.

Wheel Running.

Lord March, afterwards Duke of Queensbury, of sporting celebrity, having observed the uncommon speed with which a coachmaker's journeyman was able to run with a wheel on the pavement, thought it a good subject for a wager. A waiter in Betty's fruit shop, in St. James's Street, was famous for running, and Lord March laid a bet that a coachmaker's journeyman should run with the wheel of his lordship's carriage faster than the waiter. The wager was accepted; but before the time of decision, Lord March discovered that the wheel with which the man was to run was much lower than that to which he had been accustomed, and he was well assured that he could not run so well with a small wheel as with a large one. The dilemma was mentioned to Sir Francis Blake Delaval, who procured planks sufficient to cover a path on the course, which, by being laid on blocks, raised the nave of the lower wheel to the height of that to which the journeyman had been accustomed. The jockey club allowed the expedient, and Lord March won the wager.

In 1817, Blumsell, a painter, for a wager of forty guineas, ran a coach-wheel the distance of thirty miles, in six minutes less than six hours.

The Shropshire Hills.

Sir John Hill, and three of his sons (including Lord Hill), in a fox chase in 1818, which lasted two hours, pursued the fox into the town of Whitchurch. In the Green End he was met by several persons, who drove him back over the Town Pool Meadow, whence he took refuge in the garden of John Knight, Esq. Here the hounds met with a check, and the sportsmen not being able to get into the garden, were obliged to ride up the White Lion Yard, through the town, into Doddington. Sly Reynard was, however, soon driven from his hiding-place by the

huntsmen, and he took into the garden of Miss E. Langford, and finding the back door of the house open, entered the hall, ran upstairs, and got into a cupboard, whither he was pursued by the dogs and taken. The consternation of Miss L., who is an elderly maiden lady, may be more easily conceived than described, in having a fox and a whole pack of hounds in her house, and about fifty *red coats* assailing the house without, headed by the gallant Lord Hill.

Cunning of the Fox.

At the Golden Bear Inn, Reading, a young fox had a few years since been taught to go into the wheel and turn the jack. After he had thus officiated for some time, he escaped, and regained his native woods. Here he met the fate common to his species; he was pursued by the hounds, and in his flight ran through the town of Reading, reached the inn, and springing over the half door of the kitchen, jumped into the wheel and resumed his occupation, in the very place where he had been brought up, by which means he saved his life.

Tally-Ho!

The *notes* of hounds have a powerful influence on any horse that has been accustomed to follow the chase. An instance of this occurred in 1807, when the Liverpool mail was changing horses at the inn at Monk's Heath, between Congleton and Newcastle-under-Line. The horses which had performed the stage were taken off and separated, when Sir Peter Warburton's fox hounds were heard in full cry. The horses immediately started after them, with their harness on, and followed the chase until the last. One of them, a blood mare, kept the track with the whipper in, and gallantly followed him for about two hours, over every leap he took, until Reynard ran to earth in a neighbouring plantation. These spirited horses were led back to the inn at Monk's Heath, and performed their stage back to Congleton on the same evening.

Salmon Hunting.

A fisherman of the name of Graham, who resides at Whitehaven, possesses singular skill in what is called salmon hunting. When the tide recedes, what fish are left in the shallows are discovered by the agitation of the water, and this man, with a three-pointed barbed spear, fixed to a shaft fifteen feet long, plunges to the pools at a trot, up to the belly of his horse. He then makes ready his spear, and when he overtakes the salmon, strikes it with most unerring aim; that done, by a turn of his hand he raises the salmon to the surface, reels his horse towards the shore, and runs fish on dry land without dismounting. He has, by this means, killed from forty to

fifty fish in a day. His father, who is said to have been the first person that ever made salmon killing an equestrian pastime, was living in 1811; and though then ninety-eight years of age, was so active and dexterous, that armed with this trident, and on horseback, he could strike and bring out of the water a salmon of considerable weight.

Playing Chess Blindfolded.

Numerous instances are on record of persons playing at chess blindfolded, and of others who would play two, three, or four games at a time. In the year 1266, there was a Saracen named Buzecca, who came to Florence, and played, at one time, on three chess boards, with the most skilful masters in Florence, playing at two by the memory, and with the third by sight. He won two games, and the third was drawn.

Salvio, who wrote a treatise on the game of chess, Zeronè, Mediano and Ruy Lopez of Spain, Mangrolino of Florence, and Paoli Boi of Syracuse, could all play successfully without seeing the board.

Sacchieri of Turin, Keysler informs us, could play at chess with three different persons at the same time, even without seeing any one of the chess-boards. He required no more than that his substitute should tell him what piece his antagonist had moved; and Sacchieri could direct what step was to be taken on his side, holding at the same time conversation with the company present. If any dispute arose about the place where any piece should be, he could tell every move that had been made, not only by himself, but by his antagonist, from the beginning of the game; and in this manner incontestably decide the proper place of the piece.

Fair Play.

A fox being hard run in the neighbourhood of Imber, in Wiltshire, took shelter under the covering of a well, and by the endeavours used to extricate him from thence, he was precipitated to the bottom, a depth of one hundred feet. The bucket was let down; Reynard laid hold of it, and was drawn up some part of the way, when he again fell. The bucket was then let down a second time, when he secured his situation in it, and was drawn up safe. He was afterwards turned off, and fairly beat the hounds.

Omai.

Omai, the native of Otaheite, learnt to play at chess while in London, and became a considerable proficient in the game, in which he once defeated Mr. Baretti, a circumstance only to be noticed on account of its having been the cause of breaking off an acquaintance between that gentleman and Dr. Johnson, which had existed for upwards of thirty years.

The doctor used frequently to rally Mr. Baretti on the subject, and sometimes unmercifully. 'At length,' says Mr. Baretti, 'he pushed his banter on at such a rate, that he chafed me, and made me so angry, that not being able to put a stop to it, I snatched up my hat and stick, and quitted him in a most choleric mood.' When the doctor heard how much he had offended his friend, he invited him again to his house; but Mr. Baretti was then in the country, and before he returned to town, the doctor was dead.

Reputation.

Seneca relates of one Canius Julius, that he was playing at chess when the Centurion, who led a troop of condemned men to death, commanded him also to join them. Having scarcely finished his game, he said to the person with whom he played, 'Beware, when I am dead, that thou beliest me not, and say thou hast won the game.' Then bowing to the Centurion, he said, 'Bear me witness that I have the advantage by one.'

Chess on a Great Scale.

Don John of Austria had a room in his palace, in which there was a chequered pavement of black and white marble. Upon this living men, in varied costumes, moved under his directions, according to the laws of chess.

It is also related of a Duke of Weimar, that he had squares of black and white marble, on which he played at chess with real soldiers.

Test of Temper.

Olaus Magnus, who lived in the middle of the sixteenth century, informs us that in his time it was 'a custom among the most illustrious Goths and Swedes, when they would honestly marry their daughters, to prove the disposition of the suitors that came to them, and to know their passions especially, by playing with them at tables or chess. For at these games, their anger, love, peevishness, covetousness, dulness, idleness, and many more mad pranks, passions, and motives of their minds, and the forces and properties of their fortunes, are used to be seen; as whether the wooer be rudely disposed, that he will indiscreetly rejoice and suddenly triumph when he wins; or whether, when he is wronged, he can patiently endure it, and wisely put it off.'

Fox-Hounds.

In 1795, a pack of fox-hounds after running a fox near an hour in Cambridgeshire, found a brace of fresh foxes. The hounds divided; six couple and a half went away with one of them, and killed it at Weathersfield. One couple of dogs pursued the other, and killed

him at Thurlow Park gate. Fifteen couple and a half stuck to the hunted fox, and killed him at the bottom of Gogmagog Hills, after a chase of one hour and three-quarters without a check, in which time they were supposed to have run near thirty miles.

In 1796, the Duke of Northumberland's pack ran a fox into a very large furze cover near Alnwick, called Bunker's Hill, where he was lost in an earth which no person knew of. On the hounds returning to the kennel, two couple and a half of the best were missing. Next day several men went in search of them to all the earths and crags for twenty miles round, but no tidings could be gained. The cover where the fox was lost was then searched, and the earth discovered. In digging about two yards deep, one hound was found; several yards further, three more fast together in the ground; and two yards deeper, the fifth hound was dug up. They were all dead.

Leaping Treason.

King William the Third was passionately fond of the chase, and made it a point never to be outdone in any leap, however perilous. A Mr. Cherry, who was devoted to the exiled family, took advantage of this to plan the most pardonable design which was ever formed against a king's life. He regularly joined the royal hounds, put himself foremost, and took the most desperate leaps, in the hope that William might break his neck in following him. One day, however, he accomplished one so imminently dangerous, that the king, when he came to the spot, shook his head, and drew back. It is said that Mr. Cherry at length broke his own neck, and thereby relieved the king from further hazard.

Feats of Agility and Legerdemain.

The natives of China and Hindostan must be allowed to surpass all the rest of the world in feats of agility and legerdemain. The English public have of late years had an opportunity of witnessing exhibitions by jugglers from both countries; but surprising as some of their performances were, they are far surpassed by what is every day to be seen in India.

Two men will throw spears at each other at about fifteen feet distant, as forcibly as they can; one will ward off his adversary's dart by another, which he carries upright in both hands, and the other receive his opponent's javelin every throw, under one of his arms. Four persons will hold slightly a line cloth, stretched out; a man will run over it so lightly as not to force it out of the holder's hands.

Two sabres being placed parallel upon the ground, with their edges upwards, a man will

run once over their edges so slightly as not to cut himself. The same man will step over upon the point of a sword fixed upright, and then jump through a barrel, held horizontally, about five feet high.

A sword and four daggers are placed upon the ground, the edges and points upwards, no further distance from each other than will admit of a man's head; a man then fixes a scimitar upright, sits down behind it, and, at a bound, throws himself over the scimitar, pitches his head exactly in the space between the daggers, and turns over clear of them.

A common rope is stretched upon two pair of crossed spars, about twenty feet distant, and fourteen feet from the ground. A man piles six waterpots upon his head, and thus accoutred, ascends the rope by means of the spars, or of a sloping cord on the outside of them; the rope is not quite tight, but left with a slack of about three feet; he then, with a balance pole in his hand, walks backward and forward, and swings the rope to its extent without letting a single pot fall.

Five earthen pots are placed above each other on a man's head. A young girl mounts upon the uppermost, and the man then dances about with the pots and girl thus balanced.

A man will take a small brass pan, and twirl it round upon the end of a sharp-pointed stick, then toss it high in the air, catch it again in any part upon the point of the stick, still continuing to twirl it round; he will then tie another stick to the first, and a third to the second, each tie forming a kind of circular hinge; then rest the bottom stick upon his nose or chin, each stick moving round upon its joint, and the pan still twirling round upon its centre, on the top of all, the whole keeping in equilibrium.

A cap with a broad stiff rim is fitted to a man's head, to which is tied about twenty strings, terminated each by small nooses. In his left hand he holds a small basket, or brass pan, containing twenty eggs; then turning round, with a quick but regular motion (as the Turkish dervises are represented to do in religious rites) he fastens, successively, with his right hand, an egg into each of the nooses, still turning round. When they are all fastened, he accelerates his rotation, till the eggs circulate swiftly as the flyer of a jack. After this, he rather slackens his motion, unties the eggs one by one, returns them into the basket, and stops; the strings measure from three to four feet; and are of unequal lengths, lest the eggs should accidentally clash.

A man will place upon his head two pieces of wood, like double-headed shot, each a foot in length, one over the other; upon the highest piece he adds a brass dish; upon the dish four wooden pillars, each about five inches in height; upon the pillars a small plank; upon the plank stands a girl upright. With all this apparatus in due balance, he will dance three or four times round the room.

Another will place a straw on his nose in

the open air, balance it first there, and then on a very little bit of stick in his mouth, removing it several times from one place to the other.

In tumbling, the Indians do not excel so much as in other feats; but at an exhibition some time ago at Calcutta, there was an old fellow, who though past his grand climacteric, deemed it expedient, after springing over an enormous elephant, and then over five camels abreast, to apologize for his inability, lamenting, with a sigh, that there was a time when, in the presence of Nadir Shah, he could vault indeed; but now, alas! age and infirmity (having since broken a leg and an arm) had nearly incapacitated him.

Steeple-chases.

At the Malton races in 1801, a match was run betwixt two hunters, which should arrive at a given point in the shortest time. They went the distance (four miles) in less than fifteen minutes, and took one hundred leaps in their way, as they crossed the country. Mr. Teasdale was the winner; Mr. Darley the loser, on whom the odds were at starting.

A match of this kind which created much amusement, took place in April, 1814, between Messrs. Reynoldson, Harbinger, and Duckett, three celebrated fox-hunters, for a sweepstakes of fifty guineas each. The ground selected was from Storford in Hertfordshire, to Coleshill, a distance of twenty-one miles, through a woody country, with other obstacles of rivulets, enclosures, &c. The sportsmen kept pace with each other the first four miles, when they separated on their different routes, to avoid a rivulet. Mr. Harbinger arrived at Coleshill first, having performed the distance, after many daring leaps, in one hour and nineteen minutes. Mr. Duckett ran the winner closely, and was within three minutes of him; and Mr. Reynoldson, who was supposed to be the best mounted, broke down at a leap.

Duke of Queensberry.

One of the most celebrated sporting characters of the last age, was the Duke of Queensberry. He frequently rode his horses himself, and was generally successful in the race. The duke did not however confine his love of pastime to ordinary horse-racing, but executed schemes of expedition till then considered impracticable. He once bet a considerable wager that he would convey a letter fifty miles within an hour, without the aid of horses, carrier pigeons, &c.; and this he effected by having it enclosed in a cricket-ball, which twenty-four expert cricketers transferred to each other; by which means the ball passed more than fifty miles within the given time.

The duke (then Earl of March) made a bet with Count O'Tafe, that he would cause a carriage with four horses to be drawn a dis-

tance of nineteen miles in sixty minutes. As much depended on the lightness of the machine, Lord March caused an ingenious coach-maker to construct a vehicle for the purpose, in which he exhausted all the resources of his art to diminish the weight and friction as much as possible; and silk is said to have been used for the harness instead of leather. Four blood horses of approved speed were trained for some time, and two grooms of small weight and approved skill provided to manage them. The course at Newmarket was fixed for deciding this singular match, which took place on the 29th of August, 1750. The novelty of the project attracted an immense concourse of people, and bets to the amount of many thousands of pounds were depending. The postilions mounted, and the carriage, constructed partly of wood and of whalebone, was hurried along with unrivalled velocity, and darted within the appointed time to the winning post.

Gaming for Money.

In the reign of Richard the First, an edict was issued concerning gaming, by which no person in the army was permitted to play at any sort of game for money, except knights and also clergymen, who in one whole day and night should not each lose more than twenty shillings, on pain of forfeiting one hundred shillings to the archbishop of the army. The two kings might play for what they pleased; but their attendants not for more than twenty shillings, otherwise they were to be whipped naked through the army for three days.

Lion Hunt.

In a lion hunt at Baroda in the East Indies in 1816, a small party of the gentlemen of the residency, accompanied by ten sepoy, after killing a lioness, went in search of her companion. After some time, the animal was traced by his footsteps to one of the high hedges which intersected a garden within a mile of the town. The party approached within eight yards, when two gentlemen and two sepoy fired; the animal then moved off to the other side of the hedge, and ten minutes after he was discovered lying under another hedge, groaning with rage and pain. Some pieces were instantly discharged, which exasperating him, he rushed out, and nobly charged his assailants, his tail being curled over his back. In his advance he was saluted with great coolness, with several balls from all the gentlemen, and a few sepoy of the party who had come up; and though within a few yards of the object of his attack, he suddenly turned off and sprung upon a sepoy detached to the right, with whom he grappled, and afterwards by the violence of the exertion fell to the ground beyond him. At this moment the party gallantly, and for the humane purpose of saving a fellow crea-

ture, rushed forward, and with bayonets and swords put an end to the monster. The sepoy was wounded in the left shoulder, but not dangerously.

Monstrous Pike.

Colonel Thornton, when on his sporting tour to the Highlands, caught a pike of most extraordinary dimensions in Loch Alva, an account of which he relates with all the spirit of a true sportsman. After failing in one attempt to take this rare fish, 'On the second trip,' says he, 'I saw a very large fish come at me, and collecting my line, I felt that I had got him fairly hooked; but I feared he had run himself tight round some root, his weight seemed so dead; we roused up therefore to the spot, where he soon convinced me he was at liberty, by running me so far into the lake, that I had not one more inch of line to give him. The servants foreseeing the consequences of my situation, rowed with great expedition towards the fish, which now rose about seventy yards from us, an absolute wonder! I relied on my tackle, which I knew was in every respect excellent, as I had in consequence of a large pike killed the day before, put on hooks and gimp, adjusted with great care; a precaution which would have been thought superfluous in London, as it certainly was for most lakes, though here barely equal to my fish. After playing him for some time, I gave the rod to Captain Waller, that he might have the honour of landing, for I thought him quite exhausted; when, to our surprise, we were again constrained to follow the monster nearly across this great lake, having the wind too much against us. The whole party were now in high blood, and the delightful *Ville de Paris* (one of the colonel's boats) quite unmanageable; frequently he flew out of the water to such a height that though I knew the uncommon strength of my tackle, I dreaded losing such an extraordinary fish, and the anxiety of our little crew was equal to mine. After about an hour and a quarter's play, however, we might safely attempt to land him, which was done in the following manner:—Newmarket, a lad so called from the place of his nativity, who had now come to assist, I ordered with another servant to strip, and wade in as far as possible, which they readily did. In the meantime, I took the landing-net, while Captain Waller, judiciously ascending the hill above, drew him gently towards us. He approached the shore very quietly, and we thought him quite safe, when, seeing himself surrounded by his enemies, he in an instant made a last desperate effort, shot into the deep again, and in the exertion threw one of the men on his back. His immense size was now very apparent; we proceeded with all due caution, and being once more drawn towards land, I tried to get his head into the net, upon effecting which the servants were ordered to seize his tail, and slide him on shore. I took all imaginable pains to accomplish this, but in vain, and

began to think myself strangely awkward, when at length, having got his *snout* in, I discovered that the hoop of the net, though adapted to a very large pike, would admit no more than that part. He was, however, completely spent, and in a few moments welanded him, a perfect monster. He was stabbed by my direction in the spinal marrow, with a large knife, which appeared to be the most humane manner of killing him, and then I ordered all the signals, with the *skyscrapers*, to be hoisted, and the whoop re-echoed through the whole range of the Grampians. On opening the jaws to endeavour to take the hooks from him, which were both fast in his gorges, so dreadful a forest of teeth or tusks I think I never beheld. His measurement, accurately taken, was five feet four inches from his eye to fork. The weight of this fish, judged by the bones we had with us, which only weigh twenty-nine pounds, made us, according to our best opinions, estimate him at between forty-seven and forty-eight pounds.'

A Brave Challenger.

In the beginning of the last century a female resided at Wanstead, who annually attracted notice by the following advertisement: 'This is to give notice to all my honoured masters and ladies, and the rest of my loving friends, that my Lady Butterfield gives a challenge to ride a horse, to leap a horse, or run on foot, or holloa, with any woman in England seven years younger, but not a day older, *because I wont undervalue myself*, being now seventy-four years of age. My feast will be the last Wednesday of this month, April, when there will be good entertainment for that day, and all the year after, in Wanstead, in Essex.

Story Telling.

One of the most favourite amusements of the lazzaroni of Naples is to listen to public readers, of whom (says Mr. Galiffe, in his 'Italy') there were generally two or three on the mole, and it is really a curious thing to see an audience of individuals covered with dirty rags, listening to poetry with the same attention as the Greeks might have paid to Homer. They sit on the ground, or on the wall, or on the logs of wood that are occasionally deposited on the mole, while the readers stand in the middle of the throng, or rather at one extremity of it, with a small vacant space before them, as their stage or arena. The readers take care to oblige the nonpaying amateurs to yield up their places to those from whom they have reason to expect contributions. Such preferences in a public place, where, in strictness, all rights are equal, would not be tolerated in many of the capitals of Europe, but a strong and lively sense of equity pervades the whole of this class at Naples, to such a degree that I never saw either disturbance or discontent occasioned by these inter-

ferences. The ragged listeners who were thus arbitrarily displaced for persons who did not even thank them for it, rose from their seats with perfect coolness and equanimity, and sought other places in more distant parts of the circle. I was frequently induced to stop at these groups, to examine the features, attitude, and expression of the individuals who composed them, but I could never bear to listen above a few minutes to the reader, who stops at every line in poetry, at every comma in prose, to explain by his gestures, or by other words, the sense of what he has just recited. But his ill-timed emphasis and ridiculous grimaces, which made his exhibition intolerable to my taste, formed, perhaps, an essential part of the entertainment of his native audience, for as the books which I heard read, were always written in pure Tuscan Italian, it is probable that, without the grimaces and interpretations of the reader, few of his hearers would understand his meaning. I also was surprised to find that the readings were usually in some romance of chivalry, a style of subject which does not seem to have many points in unison with their feelings, and I was the more astonished at this because there is abundance of pretty poetry, and of very entertaining fairy tales, in the Neapolitan dialect. - Howbeit, 'Sentir storie' is so favourite an amusement that it always attracts a crowd on the mole, even when contending with the rivalry of an exhibition of puppets. At one time there were no fewer than six spectacles for the mob exhibiting there every day, a reader of poetry, a declaimer in prose, a singer, a tooth-drawer and mountebank, a pulcinello with a dog, and puppets that performed plays. Each of these was very numerous attended.

Riding Perpendicular.

A curious and hazardous performance took place at Dover, in 1812, for a trifling wager, by a gentleman of the neighbourhood. There is a shaft excavated in Dover, from Snargate Street to the heights, comprising one hundred and forty steps, nearly perpendicular, and much resembling those in the Monument of London. The gentleman's servant first led his master's horse up the steps of the shaft, and, to the astonishment of every person who followed him, he then led the animal to the bottom. After this, the gentleman gallantly mounted, and arrived safe at the top of the shaft, in nearly a trot, by which he won the wager.

Protestant Frank.

Colonel Edgeworth, who raised a regiment for King William the Third, and was called *Protestant Frank*, was much addicted to gambling. One night, after losing all the money he could command, he staked his wife's diamond ear-rings, and went into an adjoining room, where she was sitting in company.

to ask her to lend them to him. She took them from her ears, and gave them to him, saying that she knew for what purpose they were wanted, but he was welcome to them. They were played for; Colonel Edgeworth won upon this last stake, and gained back all he had lost that night. In the warmth of his gratitude to his wife, he at her desire took a solemn oath that he would never play more at any game with cards or dice. Some time afterwards he was found in a hay yard with a friend, drawing straws out of the hay-rick, and betting upon which should prove the longest. As might be expected, he lived in alternate extravagance and distress, sometimes with a coach-and-four, but much oftener in want of half-a-crown.

Squirrel Hunt.

In 1820, a squirrel hunt took place at Lima, in the county of Ontario, North America, which lasted forty days and a half. There were forty persons on a side, and on the game being counted, it amounted to thirteen thousand four hundred and seventy-two black squirrels.

Astonishing a Tiger.

A good mode of astonishing a tiger (says Mr. M'Leod, in his account of Dahomy) was practised with success during my stay there. A loaded musket was firmly fixed in a horizontal position, about the height of his head, to a couple of stakes driven into the ground; and the piece being cocked, a string from the trigger, first leading a little towards the butt, and then turning through a small ring forward, was attached to a shoulder of mutton stuck on the muzzle of the musket, the act of dragging off which drew the trigger, and the piece loaded with two balls, discharged itself into the plunderer's mouth, killing him on the spot.

Unkennelling a Bear.

In January, 1818, a party of hunters from Warwick, in the state of New York, after a search of eight days, discovered a large bear taking shelter in a fissure or cave in a declivity of the rocks of Warwick mountains, about forty feet deep. Attempts were first made to get him out by smoking, &c., but without effect. Dogs were then sent into the hole, but they either retreated at his terrific aspect, or were destroyed by his grasp. At length the huntsmen finding all attempts to frighten him from his retreat fruitless, blew up the rock over the hole, and came within about sixteen feet of the bear. These continued operations made him fierce, and terrible. After the hole blown through the rock was sufficiently large to admit the body of a man, one John Ward crept into it, placed lighted candles fixed upon the end of a pole,

towards the bear, and with a musket shot at him, but without effect. He descended the second time, and shot him in the fore legs; the bear at each fire advanced towards the mouth of the hole, but Ward was not to be intimidated; he descended again, and shot the ferocious beast in one eye. Ward was now drawn out, the bear fiercely following him; he instantly seized a rifle from the hands of another huntsman, and discharged the contents into the head of the animal, which proved fatal. He measured six feet from the nose to the end of the tail, and weighed three hundred and thirteen pounds.

Cricket.

Of all the popular pastimes to which the ball has given origin (and they are numerous), the game of cricket is the most pleasant and manly exercise. It is a game of very recent date, and its appellation cannot be traced beyond the commencement of the eighteenth century.

The Persians had a similar game, but performed on horseback, called *chugan*, which was a favourite recreation of kings and chiefs, and was originally considered as almost peculiar to illustrious personages, though it afterwards became universally practised throughout Persia. Chardin describes it as one of the popular amusements, admitting thirty or forty persons, formed into two parties, to engage at once. The object of those who played, was to drive a ball made of light wood, through the goal, by means of sticks, having semicircular or straight transverse heads; while the contending parties, governed by certain prescribed laws, and striking only when at full gallop, endeavoured to bear off the ball. Of this game there were several kinds.

Degraded into a pedestrian exercise, and under various denominations, this game seems to have been widely diffused throughout Europe, and we may perhaps trace it in the cricket of England; the golf or gough of Scotland, and the hurling matches of Ireland. Pietro della Valle discovered it in the Florentine *calcio*; and the original name *chugan*, appears but slightly disguised in the *chicane* of Languedoc, where the game is played as in Persia, with a wooden ball and a club, headed like a mallet or hammer. A similar game, in which women as well as men partake, is a favourite amusement in Chili, and is there called *la chuca*. The game often lasts a whole evening, and sometimes is forced to be put off to another day.

Of late years cricket has become in England exceedingly fashionable, being much patronized by the nobility and gentlemen of fortune, who frequently join in the diversion. In the cricket ground at Marylebone, called Lord's Ground, there are frequently matches, which are played by gentlemen of the first families in the kingdom; and there is not perhaps a county that has not several cricket clubs.

Paraguay Amusements.

When the Jesuits first laid the foundation of that gigantic power which they afterwards established in Paraguay, they took equal care to employ and amuse the people. The natural aptitude of the Indians for music was encouraged, and their strong propensity for dancing indulged, by making it a part of all their religious ceremonies. Boys and youths were the performers; the grown men and all the females assisted only as spectators, apart from each other; the great square was the place, and the rector and his coadjutor were seated in the church-porch, to preside. The performances were dramatic figure dances, for which the Catholic mythology furnished subjects in abundance. Sometimes they were in honour of the Virgin, whose flags and laurels were then brought forth; each of the dancers bore a letter of her name upon a shield, and in the evolutions of the dance the whole were brought together, and displayed in their just order; at intervals they stopped before her image, and bowed their heads to the ground. Sometimes they represented a battle between the Christians and Moors, always to the proper discomfiture of the misbelievers. The three kings of the east formed the subject of another pageant; the Nativity, of another; but that which, perhaps, gave most delight, was the battle between Michael and the dragon, with all his imps. These stories were sometimes represented in the form of *autos*, or sacred plays (like the mysteries of the ancient drama), in which no female actors were admitted; the dresses and decorations were public property, and deposited among the public stores, under the rector's care. The Jesuits, who incorporated men of all descriptions in their admirably-formed society, had, at one time, a famous dancing master in Paraguay, by name Joseph Cardiel; who, whether he had formerly practised the art as a professor, or was only an amateur, took so much delight in it, that he taught the Indians no fewer than seventy different dances, all, as we are assured, strictly decorous. Sometimes the two acts of music and dancing were combined, as in ancient Greece, and the performers, with different bands of hand instruments, danced in accordance to their own playing.

Mr. Elwes.

The miser, John Elwes, Esq., who would starve himself to save sixpence, was a man who frequently hazarded large sums at the gaming table. Few men, according to his own acknowledgment, had played deeper than himself, or with more varied success. He once played two days and a night without intermission: and the room being a small one, the party were nearly up to their knees in cards. He lost some thousands at that sitting; and the Duke of Northumberland was of the party, who would never quit a table where any hope of winning remained.

If Mr. Elwes had received all he won, he would have been the richer for his gaming propensities; but many sums were never liquidated, and thus he became a great loser by play. The theory which he professed, 'that it was impossible to ask a gentleman for money,' he perfectly confirmed by his practice; and he never violated this feeling to the last hour of his life.

It is curious to remark, how at this period of his life he contrived to mingle small attempts at saving, with objects of the most unbounded dissipation. After sitting up a whole night at play for thousands, with the most fashionable and profligate men of the time, amid splendid rooms, gilt sofas, wax lights, and waiters attendant on his call, he would walk out about four in the morning *not* toward home, but into Smithfield, to meet his own cattle, which were coming to market from Thaydon-hall, a farm of his in Essex. There would this same man, forgetful of the scenes he had just left, stand, in the cold or rain, haggling with a carcase butcher for a *shilling*!

Mr. Elwes made frequent excursions to Newmarket, but he never engaged on the turf. On one of these visits, Lord Abingdon, who was slightly known to Mr. Elwes, had made a match for seven thousand guineas, which it was supposed he would be obliged to forfeit, from an inability to produce the sum, though the odds were greatly in his favour. Mr. Elwes, unsolicited, made him an offer of the money, which he accepted, and won the engagement. The generosity of this act no one will deny; but it was the fate of Mr. Elwes to combine some great actions with a meanness so extraordinary, that he no longer appeared the same person; and he who hazarded seven thousand pounds in the morning, fasted all day, and went happily to bed with the reflection that he had saved half a crown!

Riding and Driving.

In 1810, Mr. Western of Moorfields, undertook to drive his horse, Scorpion, one hundred miles in twelve successive hours, and which he accomplished twenty-eight minutes and a half before the time. The same distance was done in eleven hours and a half, by a black mare, the property of Mr. Hunt of Colchester, who was precluded the use of the whip; which, however, the noble animal never required.

In December, 1817, Mr. Milton engaged that he would ride from London to Stamford, a distance of ninety miles, in five hours. He started at eight o'clock in the morning, amidst a violent shower of rain; and in the course of the first hour went twenty-three miles. When he was about forty miles from town, he was disappointed in not finding a horse, and was obliged to continue for some miles longer on the one he then rode. He, however, accomplished his task, and arrived at Stamford twenty-five minutes past twelve.

o'clock, thus winning his wager by thirty-five minutes.

In 1811, Mr. Sward undertook for a wager of five hundred guineas, to drive four-in-hand fifteen miles in fifty minutes. At six o'clock in the morning he started from Hyde-park corner, to the fifteenth milestone near Staines. He performed the distance in fifty-three minutes and twenty seconds, and lost the match.

In the summer of 1809, a mare belonging to Mr. Wilson, the liveryman, performed a task unprecedented in the sporting calendar. The owner of the mare backed her for a wager of 200 guineas, to go fifty miles in three hours and a half, this being at the rate of nearly fifteen miles an hour. The animal went off in high condition on the Woodford Road, and went above fifteen miles within an hour at a steady trot, and continued to do the same in the next two hours; the difficulty in the performance was to execute the last five miles in the half hour, which was nevertheless done in four minutes less than the given time; betting was seven to four and two to one against the mare.

Miss Pond, who has been frequently spoken of as riding a thousand miles in a thousand hours at Newmarket in 1758, did it under circumstances far from difficult. She was a relative of the publisher of the sporting calendar, in Oxendon Street, and she was backed by the Duke of Queensberry, then Lord March. She was allowed to do the thousand miles on as many horses as she chose, without regarding time, and she did the match in twenty-eight days, and two-thirds of the time on one favourite horse. The lady took her rest regularly at night, and rode in the day-time forty or fifty miles.

Clerical Dancing.

Louis XII. of France held a grand court at Milan, in 1501, where the balls are said to have been magnificent. Two Cardinals, Cardinal de Narbonne and Cardinal de St. Leverin, footed it there with the rest of the courtiers. Cardinal Pallavino relates, that the fathers, doctors, bishops, and other church dignitaries, assembled at the Council of Trent, rested for a while in 1562 from their theological polemics, and deliberated on the important proposition of giving a ball to Philip II. King of Spain. The project, after mature discussion, was adopted, the ball was appointed, all the ladies of the city were invited, and the Spanish bigot, together with all the fathers of the council, danced on the occasion.

Pedestrianism.

Notwithstanding the predominant rage for pedestrianism, and its boasted achievements, it is to be doubted, whether in this respect we excel the ancients, or whether with all the

skill of modern training and preparation, savage nations are not yet our superiors.

It is related of Phillippides, who was sent from Athens to Sparta, that in two days he ran one hundred and fifty Roman miles. Our fifth Harry, and two of his lords, could take any doe in a large forest by fairly running it down; and Harold, the son of Canute the Second, is said to have been so swift, that few horses were able to gallop faster. He could run a hare to death, from which circumstance he was surnamed, *Harefoot*.

At Ispahan, couriers go one hundred and thirty miles, in ten or twelve hours. The American Indians who hunt the Orignal, pursue those animals, though as fleet as stags, till they tire and catch them; and it is asserted, that these men perform journeys of five or six thousand miles in six weeks or two months.

To turn to England and modern times.—In the beginning of last century, Lewis Whitehead, of Bramham, in Yorkshire, ran four miles in nineteen minutes, which was at the rate of somewhat more than twelve miles an hour. He was then twenty-nine years old, and lived to be one hundred. In June, 1777, Joseph Headly, of Riccal, near York, ran five miles in twenty-one minutes. In 1803, John Todd, a Scotsman, ran a mile on the Uxbridge road in four minutes and ten seconds. In October, 1811, Mr. Rivington, a farmer near Dorchester, walked five hundred and sixty miles in seven days, which was at the rate of eighty miles per day. But the most remarkable pedestrian feat on record, is that of one Glanville, a native of Shropshire, who, in 1806, walked one hundred and twenty-two miles on the Bath road in twenty-nine hours and three quarters.

The Barclay Match.

On the first of June, 1803, Captain Barclay, of sporting celebrity, and who holds the first rank among the pedestrians of the present day, started at Newmarket Heath, to walk one thousand miles in one thousand successive hours, at the rate of a mile *in each and every hour*. During a great part of the time he was performing this feat, the weather was very rainy, but he felt no inconvenience from it. When he had come near the close of his labours, the captain suffered much from spasmodic affections of his legs, so that he could not walk a mile in less than twenty minutes; he, however, cat and drank well, and bets still continued in his favour.

On the twelfth of July, Captain Barclay finished this arduous undertaking, amidst an immense crowd of spectators, who had been attracted to the spot. A professional gentleman who had attended on him during the whole of the time, was confident that he could have held out a week or two longer. The bets on this match are supposed to have amounted to £100,000, of which the captain himself had £16,000 depending on it.

Many attempts have been made to accomplish a similar task to that of Captain Barclay, and more than one pedestrian is said to have effected it. Unless, however, sufficient money were depending to make it the interest of several persons to watch most vigilantly the whole period, it may be doubted whether the pedestrian would adhere so strictly to the task as it requires. Among those who are said to have done the Barclay match, is Thomas Standen, of Salehurst, near Silverhill Barracks, who in July, 1811, for a trifling wager, finished the arduous task he had undertaken, of walking eleven hundred miles in as many successive hours, going one mile only in each hour. Standen was then nearly sixty years of age.

Jubilee Wedding.

In the year 1733, when Christian IV. King of Denmark, and his consort, Sophia Magdalena, visited their Norwegian dominions, they took up their residence in the house of Colonel Colbiornson in Frederickshald. The Colonel, for the diversion of his illustrious guests, exhibited before them what is called a *Jubilee Wedding*. There were four couples married, all rustic people, invited from the adjacent country, and out of these, there was one under a hundred years old : so that all their ages put together, made upwards of eight hundred years ! Their names were Ole Torsen Sologsteen, who lived eight years afterwards, and his wife Ketje ten years ; Jernær, who lived six years after, and his wife Asten, who lived seven years ; Ole Besoleen and his wife N—— ; and Hans Folasken, who lived ten years after, and brought with him Hans Gallen, who was not his wife, but being hundred years old, he borrowed her for the ceremony ; she also lived ten years afterwards.

These eight married people made themselves extremely merry at this public wedding ; and the women, according to the custom of the country on bridal occasions, danced with green wreaths upon their heads. At their departure, each couple received from their guests a handsome present to carry home.

Swiftness of the Hare.

In coursing, many opportunities have occurred of observing the extraordinary velocity of the hare, but none more remarkable than the following. In March, 1812, a hare started near Poynton, in Cheshire, which the greyhounds ran fifteen minutes and seven seconds, before she was killed. The same run in that short period, it is supposed, was six miles.

Hunting in Cyprus.

A modern traveller gives the following account of sporting in the Island of Cyprus. ' In this place,' says he, ' I had the pleasure of

seeing a Cyprian hunting or coursing match, and that at which I was present, was none of the least brilliant, as it was the governor's. Having arrived at a spacious plain interspersed with clumps of mulberry trees, some ruins and thick bushes, the sportsmen began to form a ring, in order to enclose the game. The barrier consisted of guards on horseback, with dogs placed in the intervals. The ladies of the greatest distinction in Nicosia, with a multitude of other people, stood upon a little hill, which I ascended also. The governor and his suite were posted in different parts of the plain, and as soon as the appointed moment arrived, the hunt was opened with the sound of musical instruments ; part of the dogs were then let loose, which ranging through the bushes and underwood, sprung a great number of rails, partridges, and woodcocks. The governor began the sport by bringing down one of these birds ; his suite followed his example, and the winged tribe, into whatever quarter they flew, were sure of meeting with instant death. I was struck with the tranquillity of the stationary dogs, for notwithstanding the instinct by which they were spurred on, not one of them quitted his post ; but the rest ran about in pursuit of the game. The scene was now changed, a hare started up from a bush, the dogs pursued, and while the former made a thousand turnings in order to escape, she everywhere found an opponent ; she, however, often defeated the greyhounds, and I admired in such cases the sagacity of these animals, who disdaining the assistance of those that were young and inexperienced, waited until some of the cunning old ones opened the way for them ; and then the whole plain was in motion. When the poor animal was just ready to become a prey to its enemy, the governor rushed forward, and throwing a stick which he held in his hand before the greyhounds, they all stopped, and not one of them ventured to pass this signal. One of the swift greyhounds being then let loose, pursued the hare, and having come up with it, carried it back, and jumping upon the neck of the governor's horse, placed it before him.'

Stag and Tiger Fight.

The sporting Duke of Cumberland, when at Ascot races one year, promoted a combat which humanity bids us condemn ; it was between a stag and a hunting tiger. The result was, however, far different from what might have been expected. On a lawn by the roadside, near Ascot, a space was fenced in with very strong toiling, fifteen feet high, into which an old stag was turned, and shortly after the tiger was led in, blindfolded, by two blacks who had the care of him. The moment his eyes were uncovered, and that he saw the deer, he crouched down on his belly, and creeping like a house-cat at a mouse, watched an opportunity of safely seizing his prey. The stag, however, warily turned as he turned, and this strange antagonist still found

himself opposed by his formidable antlers. In vain the tiger attempted to turn his flanks, the stag had too much generalship; and this cautious warfare lasted until it became tedious, when his royal highness enquired if by irritating the tiger the catastrophe of the combat could be hastened. He was told it might be dangerous, but it was done; the keepers went to the tiger, and did as they were ordered, when immediately, instead of attacking the deer, with a furious bound he cleared the toiling that enclosed him. The confusion among the affrighted multitude may be conceived; everyone imagined himself the destined victim to the rage of the tiger; but he, regardless of their fears, crossed the road, and rushed into the opposite wood. It happened that a herd of fallow deer were feeding not far from the scene of action, and on the haunch of one of them he instantly fastened, and brought it to the ground. His keepers, to whom he was perfectly familiarized, for some time hesitated to go near him. At length they ventured, and not being able to get him to quit the deer, they cut its throat, separated the haunch he had seized, which he never left from his hold a moment, covered his eyes, and led him away with the haunch in his mouth.

Rhinoceros Hunting.

The following extract of a letter from the north-east frontier of British India, gives a good account of a day passed in hunting the rhinoceros, during the late Nepal war: "On a late occasion, our huntsmen, whom we have dispersed in all directions, brought us information of a herd of seven or eight rhinoceroses having taken up their abode near Hurdeen. We despatched our elephants, seven in number, and shooting apparatus, &c., without delay, and followed ourselves on horseback. On reaching the spot, we found that either side of the lake, for about one hundred yards, was clothed with glorious jungle for every animal of the savage kind. Rattan, wild-rose bushes, and the reeds interwoven, formed a cover of nearly ten feet high. This, then, we began forthwith to beat, each of our party, four in number, having an elephant with howdahs, the other three elephants carrying pads, and a few servants only. We had seventeen guns, most of them double barrelled, and five of the latter kind four ounce rifles. Soon after we entered the jungle, the piping of the elephants, and the fresh prints of the rhinoceroses' feet, proved that the huntsmen were not mistaken: and, indeed, in less than an hour, we started two young ones, about the size of a full-grown nilghau, and not unlike that animal in colour. The first fire killed one, and wounded the other severely, which notwithstanding went off at a smart elk trot, and howling in a most hideous manner. The sound was infinitely greater, but the tone reminded me of such music as I had often heard on the sod at wakes and funerals. The old ones soon collected around us by the

cries, and three males, of monstrous size and frightful appearance, charged our line with daring impetuosity. Two of our elephants giving way, received the charge on their hinder parts, and were instantly upset; those that stood fronting the charge were not knocked down, but staggered several yards by the shock. Unfortunately, mine was the only howdah elephant that gave way, and you may believe my situation was by no means laughable. The elephant often attempted to rise; but so often did the rhinoceros lay him flat again; and at length with such force, that I was thrown several yards into the lake, in a state of utter stupefaction, but luckily falling on some willows, they supported and saved me from drowning. I was not sorry, on recovering, to find myself out of the howdah, for while in it, destruction appeared inevitable, either by the horn of the furious enemy, the rolling over of the elephant, or what was as likely as any, by my companions' shot, who despairing of my escape, fired many times. Their balls struck the monster's body in several places, without producing any evident effect, though from the four ounce before mentioned. At last a lucky shot knocked a large flake from his horn, and caused a pleasing change in his conduct, for he walked *Spanish* directly afterwards, tearing through the thickets with astonishing force at a beautiful *Mahratta canter*. We traced his footsteps for some miles, when being convinced that he had taken to the forest, we returned to look for the others, determined to search again for him on a future day. On our way back we found the young one that we had wounded in the morning dead. 'Twas now past one P.M. and we had nearly given up all hopes of finding the others. However, on rounding the north end of the lake, we roused them again, and after a chase of more than three hours, killed two, a male and a female. They were not so bold now as we expected to find them, and seemed to have lost their courage with their leader, to whom they were very inferior in size; but still their dimensions astonished us not a little. The largest was above six feet in height, and stronger in proportion than any elephant I ever saw. No elephants but males of known courage ought to be employed in this desperate chase."

Aquatic Tournament.

The fête of St. Louis is always celebrated with peculiar splendour at Lyons, and among the amusements, there is a curious aquatic tournament by the *jouteurs*, who exhibit in boats on the river. Mrs. Baillie, who witnessed this pastime in 1818, thus describes it: "The dress of the combatants, among whom were several young boys of eight and five years old, was very handsome and fanciful, entirely composed of white linen, ornamented with knots of dark blue riband. They wore white kid leather shoes, tied with the same colours, caps richly ornamented with gold and furnished with gold tassels. In the

hands they carried blue and gold oars, and long poles, and upon their breasts a wooden sort of shield or breast-plate, divided into square compartments, and strapped firmly on like armour, or that peculiar ornament, the *ephod*, worn by the ancient Jewish high priests. Against this they pushed with the poles as hard as possible, endeavouring to jostle and overturn their opponents. The vanquished falling into the water, save themselves by swimming, while the victors carry off the prize.'

German Free Shooting.

The Germans have a national pastime called *Scheiben Schiessen*, shooting at a mark, or *Frey Schiessen*, free shooting, which most generally takes place about the months of June or July, and is attended with much carousing. The people collect in bodies, and march in military and triumphant array, to some particular spot at a distance from the town or village; and every man who chooses to buy the privilege with a florin, lays his rifle on a rest fixed for that purpose, and shoots at a mark. The mark is sometimes a fixed target, and sometimes an object which is made to move quickly past a small opening. Should he marksman hit the mark, he has a due share of honour; and he who is so skilful as to drive his ball through the centre, receives the wooden image itself as the reward of his skill. This is then nailed up over his door, or placed at some conspicuous part of his mansion, and is very often its brightest and only ornament. It remains there year after year, till more similar trophies are sometimes added, and the front of the house becomes covered with the memorials of village war.

Frey Schiessen was introduced in the year 1530, soon after gunpowder came into general use, in order to learn how to shoot steadily at a mark. It was first practised in the north of Germany, by the citizens of Brunswick, who, in all matters of discipline, and in the formation of troops, are said to have set the princes of the empire a good example. Before then, similar practices with other arms appear to have been common; but then, for the first time, shooting with muskets was introduced amongst the people. It has now, however, degenerated into a mere amusement, which, though very national, is permitted only once a year. The Germans display in it, as in other things, their great characteristic of shunning bodily exertion. When we compare it with cricket, or golf, or boxing, or any of the only pastimes of our country youth, we find that the revelry which accompanies it, which was originally intended to congratulate a victor, or soothe him after his toils. It is rather a sort of saturnalia, when those who have been sober and sparing all the year, indulge in wantonness. It is to the Germans what the *enrich fair* is to the citizens of London, or the *fête de St. Cloud* to the Parisians. Every one must partake of its festivities. Those

who never go abroad through the rest of the year, go to this feast. The pennies which poverty can save, are hoarded for an excess; and those whose profligacy has spared nothing, pawn their furniture, their clothes, or their ornaments, that they may say like their neighbours, 'I too was at the feast; I swilled in the same room with the herren; and I destroyed a certain portion of viands better than ordinary, and I was filled both with joy and with meat.'

Every village has its own *Schiessen*; but in Hanover it is said to be exhibited in the greatest perfection. A recent traveller in Germany thus describes it: 'It was the 19th of July, in the morning, that the citizens of the new town of Hanover, in an appropriate costume, with music and flags, marched in gay procession from the town to Herrenhausen, a palace of the sovereign, about one mile and a half distant; booths were erected, and a proper place made for the shooting. The orangery was cleared out; one end of it was fitted up as a ball-room, and the other as a tavern; the fountains of the royal gardens were made to play; and great importance was given to the whole by one of the cabinet ministers, who is the chief of all that relates to the royal domains, taking the direction on himself. For this attention, however, the citizens, with their music, go at the end of the three days during which the shooting lasts, in solemn procession, to return him their thanks, and "bring him a vivat." Even this amusement is under the direction of the government.'

'I visited Herrenhausen on each day the shooting lasted, and partook of the feasting and revelry. The gay ball-room in the orange house was for the dancers of a better condition; and sundry other places were fitted up for the poorer citizens and peasants to hop and whirl in at a cheaper rate. Refreshments of all kinds were abundant, and there was a great deal of guzzling. People of all distinctions go, and carry their families with them. I saw a judge smoking his cigar, and swallowing the wing of a fowl; the master of the horse drinking punch; the secretary to the consistorium enjoying a pasty with his wife; nobles, gentlemen, tradesmen, musicians, were all mixed together; and there were no distinctions recognised or preserved.'

South American Dances.

The dance of the South American Indians is not only amusing, but scientific, and would create wonder and applause in any part of Europe. The leader of the dance is styled their chief, or Indian king, to whom the others pay implicit obedience. The chief and twelve Indian lads, from twelve to fifteen years of age, are dressed in the costume of the country, namely, a short petticoat tied round the waist, and decorated with various coloured feathers, compose the whole of the body dress; the petticoat extends almost to the knees, and is very tastefully ornamented; round the head

a coronet of coloured paper decorated with plumes of feathers is displayed, and the long twisted black hair gives a finished appearance to the whole. The chief alone wears a mantle, adorned with pieces of scarlet cloth, gracefully thrown over his shoulders; and with a sort of sceptre in his hand, commands the whole. He wears a large coronet on his head. The boys are all armed with bows and arrows, and having formed themselves into two lines, their king walks down the middle, and seats himself in the chair of state. He is supposed to personate Montezuma, who on receiving a letter from Cortez demanding the unconditional surrender of his person and treasures, is so irritated, as to cause him to tear the letter in pieces before his body guard, and having imparted to them its contents, demands of them if they are willing to die in their Inca's defence? Their answer is an instantaneous prostration of themselves at the feet of their monarch, in token of their firm resolution to defend him to the last extremity, and to die in his cause. They then on a sudden arise, and having strung their bows, show their readiness for immediate battle. The piece then concludes, and dancing recommences. The pole dance in general closes the diversion of the afternoon; a dance so called from the use of a pole about ten feet high, and four or five inches in circumference. At the head is a round ball or truck, immediately under which are fastened twelve differently coloured, or variously striped pieces of French tape, about half an inch broad, and about twelve feet each piece in length. The pole being kept perpendicularly supported, each Indian lays hold of a line of tape, which is drawn to its full length, the whole forming a large circle around the pole, one regularly covering his companion in front. At a signal from the chief, the music strikes up a favourite tune, and the circle becomes in motion, half of the performers facing to the right about; on the second signal, each steps off, and meeting the others, they pass on in succession, right and left, and so continue until the twelve lines of tape are entwined in chequered order from the top to the bottom of the pole; and so regular is the appearance, that it would be difficult to find a mistake. A halt for the moment takes place, and the same process is again renewed to unwind the tape, which is as regularly completed as before, by inverting the dance, and leading from left to right. It is not only graceful, but the movements of the whole are in step and time to various cadences which the instrument, usually a violin, produces.

Patagonian Slinging.

The natives of Patagonia are singularly expert in the use of the sling, which consists of two round stones, each weighing above a pound, covered with leather, and fastened to the two ends of a string, about eight feet long. When they want to use it, one stone is left in the hand, and the other whirled round

the head, until it is supposed to have acquired sufficient force, and then it is discharged at the object. The Patagonians are so expert in the management of this double-headed shot, that they will hit a mark the size of a shilling with both the stones, at the distance of fifteen yards. It is not their custom to strike either the guanico or the ostrich with them in the chase: but they discharge them so that the cord comes against the legs of the ostrich, or two of the legs of the guanico, and is twisted round them by the force and swing of the balls, so that the animal being unable to run, becomes an easy prey to the hunter.

Boxing.

The Romans, from whom so many of our popular customs and amusements have been derived, enumerated boxing among their athletic sports. Whether the Romans were as expert as the pugilists of the present day, we have no means of ascertaining; but it is certain that the professors of the art were trained with equal regularity, and there can be little doubt of their prowess.

When boxing took a serious turn, it became a contest of much greater danger than the pugilistic battles of the present time. The combatants wore gloves loaded with metal, and the issue of the combat was often fatal to one or both of them. In Dryden's 'Virgil' there is the following allusion to this mode of fighting.

‘He threw
Two ponderous gauntlets down in open view
Gauntlets which Eryx wont in fight to weld,
And sheath his hands within the listed field.
With fear and wonder seiz’d, the crowd be-
holds
The *gloves of death*, with seven distinguish’d
folds
Of tough bull hides; the space within i-
spread
With iron, or with heavy loads of lead.’

Boxing is still, under different forms, common to all Tuscany; but is reduced to less perfection in the capital. There, if a man in a contest finds himself over-matched, he usually shouts for assistance, and by the aid of the first comer, turns the table upon his antagonist. The latter again finds his abettors, and the combat thickens, till a whole street is filled with combatants.

At Sienna, boxing puts on a more scientific form. In this city are regular academies for pugilistic exercise: there is a code for the regulation of boxing matches; a certain time for recovery is accorded to the person knocked down; and, in short, the strife assumes all the distinguishing features of a courteous combat.

In Vicenza and Florence, people contend as at Sienna, with the unarmed fists: but at Pisa and Leghorn, they clench a cylindrical piece of stick, which projects at each end the doubled fist, and inflicts a cruel wound when it strikes obliquely.

Boxing has of late years become a favourite

amusement in England, and is even dignified with the name of a science by its professors. It was in the early part of the last century that Figg opened an academy, known by the name of Figg's Amphitheatre, where he taught the use of the small and back sword, cudgelling, and pugilism. To Figg succeeded Broughton, who has been called the father of the English school of boxing. From that time, to the present day, pugilism has gained ground in England, and scarcely a week passes without recording some set battle, revolting to human nature, and degrading to a country which boasts of its civilization and refinement. The advocates of pugilism (for it has its advocates and admirers, even among the nobility say that it tends to keep up the national spirit; but it will hardly be contended, that our ancestors, who fought at Cressy, Agincourt, Blenheim, and Minden, were inferior in spirit to the Britons of the nineteenth century. A more plausible apology for boxing is made by Dr. Bardsley of Manchester, who, in a 'Dissertation on the Use and Abuses of popular Sports and Exercises,' says, 'It is a singular, though striking fact, that in those parts of the kingdom of England where the generous and manly system of pugilism is least practised, and where, for the most part, all personal disputes are decided by the exertion of savage strength and ferocity, a fondness for barbarous and bloody sports is found to prevail. In some parts of Lancashire, bull-baiting and man-slaying are common practices. The knowledge of pugilism as an art is, in these places, neither understood nor practised. There is no established rule of honour to save the weak from the strong, but every man's life is at the mercy of his successful antagonist. The object of each combatant in these disgraceful contests, is to throw each other prostrate on the ground, and then with hands and feet, teeth and nails, to inflict at random very possible degree of injury and torment. This is not an exaggerated statement of the barbarism still prevailing in many parts of this kingdom'

New Year's Day in Persia.

On the first day of the new year, the governors of the provinces make their presents to the King of Persia, at Teheran, which are received by various sorts of games and pastimes. M. Tancoigne, who was at Teheran in 1808, thus describes them: First came men running on stilts of more than twenty feet high; others performing feats of strength and dancing, turning on the slack rope, or carrying on their heads a pile of earthen pots, surrounded with a vase of flowers; then dancing, and combats of rams, which were excited against each other.

These exercises were followed by rope dancing, performed by two young children. The rope was of hair, and consequently less flexible than a hempen one; being strained on two sides of more than forty feet in height, it tended almost imperceptibly as high as the

top of the king's kiosk. After having made several gambols with the assistance of their poles, on the part of the rope which was horizontal, one of the two dancers, ten years old at most, mounted as high as the terrace which crowns the pavilion, and then descended backwards from a height of more than eighty feet. We remarked with pleasure, that several men placed beneath the cord, followed all the movements of the child, ready to receive him in a large blanket, if his foot had happened to have slipped. We did not suppose the Persians were capable of such an attention, especially in the king's presence. These dancers are called in Persian, *djanbaz*, meaning one who plays or risks his soul. This expression, contemptuous in itself, intimates that games of this kind are discouraged by religion; and is nearly synonymous with that of, excommunication, with which our actors were once complimented.

Naked men, armed with maces, and wrestlers, appeared afterwards before the king. The first resembled savages; they struck their clubs together, without injuring each other. It was not so with the second, their combats having something hideous and revolting. The conqueror, that is to say, he who succeeded in throwing his adversary on his back, went to the foot of the kiosk, to receive a piece of money which the king threw down to him. Fireworks of a splendid description succeeded; and the next day was appropriated to horse-racing.

Stag-Hunting in Hungary.

On the 24th of September, 1818, at ten o'clock in the morning, Prince Paul Esterhazy, attended by a numerous party of friends, quitted Eisenstadt (a magnificent residence of his father, about thirty miles distant from Vienna), to enjoy a stag-hunt, a diversion altogether novel in Hungary. At eleven they arrived in the centre of a beautiful plain in front of the castle, where they found the foxhounds of Lord Stewart, three stalls or carriages containing stags, and a numerous assemblage of sportsmen. The prince and his party immediately mounted, and preparations commenced for turning off a stag, while every heart beat high with anxious expectation. At this moment the princess, attended by several ladies in barouches, drove up to witness the novel but beautiful scene. The morning, 'with breath all incense, and with cheek all bloom,' was heavenly. The signal given, the carriage was opened, and the stag stepped forth in all his native majesty; looking round with a mixture of surprise and contempt, he bounded off in high style. When viewed at the distance of about two miles, the hounds were cast off; after a little dashing, they stooped, and challenged in good form. 'Hark forward, hark forward, tantivy!' was the cry; the crash became general, and, after one checkless burst of forty minutes, the gallant hounds pulled down their game. The prince, Lord Stewart, Mr. Fitzroy, Mr. Bloomfield, Prince

Wenzel-Lichtenstein, Count Schonfield, Count Esterhazy, the huntsman, and a ninth sportsman, were in at the death. Having blooded the hounds, the party returned to the plain. Fresh horses were in attendance, but no change was made, except by Lord Stewart. It was now one o'clock, when the ober forstmeister (or head gamekeeper) again opened a stall, and produced a stag much superior to the first. After eight minutes' law, the hounds were cast off. They went at a rattling pace for five miles, when the stag was headed at Nellap; the check was momentary; he took away through the fine galloping country, and after a noble burst of fifty minutes, he entered the extensive vineyard of Margarthen. The hounds were immediately drawn off, to prevent injury to the vines, and he was driven through by the peasants, trotting before them in most majestic style. This check was amply compensated (at least to some) by a scene truly interesting. Groups of beautiful Hungarian maids were reaping the rich harvest of Bacchus:

'Their coats were kilt, and did sae sweetly shaw
The bare white legs, that whiter were than snaw;
Their cockernonies snooded up fu' sleek,
Their hassel locks hung waving on the cheek.'

While regaling on the grateful juice, we heard a halloo from the opposite side of the vineyard; 'Hark forward!' was the cry. The stag now faced the fine plain of Margarthen, over which we went at great speed. On approaching a gentle but long declivity, we descried the grassy lake of Saltz, which the stag had taken, and was now nearly half-way across the distance from one shore to the other, being rather better than an English mile. The hounds immediately took the water; their noble master, Lord Stewart, Prince Esterhazy, Mr. Fitzroy, and Mr. Bloomfield, Mr. Weatherley, and two English grooms belonging to the prince, dashed in along with them. Will, the huntsman, and Jack, the whipper-in, both Englishmen (recorded with regret) *bolted* with the Hungarians. The scene was now certainly unparalleled in the annals of European sporting. A stag swimming across a mighty lake; a pack of hounds in full cry, swimming by the sides of the horses, encouraged by their daring riders. The effort was desperate, but irresistible; the very water appeared to give a tacit consent to the attempt; it was placid, and perfectly motionless, save a gentle undulation caused by thousands of wild ducks, who seemed to sit in judgment upon the rashness of the sportsmen. From the centre of the lake the latter beheld the noble stag reach the shore, at a moment when an insurance at Lloyd's would have been very high against *their* doing so; happily, in a quarter of an hour more, their gallant steeds brought them safe to land, attended by their mute pack of hounds, which had no wind left for music. After a pause of a few minutes, to collect their hounds and breathe their horses,

they challenged at the very edge of the lake, and ran, in a direct line, for a mile and a half, to the summit of a strong ascent, into a small walnut cover, where the dashers were joined by their long-lost companions, who had more prudently preferred galloping on dry land, to swimming in a lake. Here the stag turned back, and bent his course down the mountains towards the lake again; it was now difficult to determine whether the effort made by the hounds or horsemen, to prevent his gaining the lake, was the greatest. A second swimming appeared to be desired by neither. He made a desperate effort to gain the lake; did so, but it was only to die. Eight of the leading hounds pulled him down, about twelve yards from the shore. Most piteously he brayed.

'Poor stag, the dogs thy haunches gore,
The tears run down thy face,
The huntsman's pleasure is no more,
His joys were in the chase.'

Thus ended a chase of fourteen miles by land, and one by water, that would not have disgraced a pack of the best appointed stag-hounds in Europe. All the horses in the field were English, except one, which was rode by a lieutenant-general of cavalry, and which proved very deficient in speed for the business of the day. The sportsmen returned, highly delighted with their day's sport, to the princely mansion of Eisenstadt, where they partook of a magnificent banquet, to refresh them after their fatigues.

King Crispin.

Crispin and Crispianus, two brothers, the sons of a king, according to the legend, were Christian apostles, who, in 303, came to France from Italy to preach the doctrine of Christianity. Having rendered themselves obnoxious, however, to the ruling powers, they were not allowed to preach, and were constrained to gain a livelihood by shoemaking. Crispin married his master's daughter, and is regarded as the king or patron saint of the shoemakers. King Crispin's day falls on the 14th day of October, O.S., and according to the old proverb,

On the 14th of October
Was ne'er a sutor sober.

This anniversary is frequently celebrated in Scotland with a degree of pomp and magnificence unknown to the subjects of King Crispin in any other part of the world. The following account of the festival of this description, which took place a few years ago, will amuse the reader.

In the morning his majesty King Crispin, with the whole of his officers of state, attendants, &c., that is, persons representing them, assembled in the chapel royal of Stirling Castle, and the company being there, properly marshalled according to the most approved rules of heraldry, marched through the streets of Stirling in the following order:

Three men in front, with broadswords drawn.
The champion on horseback, armed and supported by two aides-de-camp, also on horseback, with broadswords drawn.

The head colonel with silver-hilted sword drawn, sash and gorget.

Stand of colours.

Ensign with sash, gorget, and silver-hilted sword, supported by two captains with silver-hilted swords drawn.

A military band of music.

Lord Mayor supported by two aldermen and colours.

The ushers with green batons, two and two, hats off.

The KING, in his royal robes, with a large green baton, supported by his right and left hand secretaries, their hats off, his train borne by his pages.

Prime Minister, hat off.

Fifteen lords with stars on their left breasts, hats off, three and three.

Two captains with silver-hilted swords, drawn.

The corporation colours borne by two ensigns, supported by two captains with silver-hilted swords, drawn.

Commons, two and two.

Two stand of colours borne by two ensigns, supported by two lieutenants with silver-hilted swords, drawn.

Fifes and drums.

Two captains with silver-hilted swords, drawn.

The Indian Prince in his robes, armed with battle-axe, and bow and arrows, supported by his two secretaries in character, also armed, and all on horseback.

Two captains with silver-hilted swords, drawn.

Lieutenant-colonel with sash and gorget silver-hilted sword, drawn (or pike).

Two captains with silver-hilted swords, drawn,

Three broadswordmen.

Two majors on horseback.

As the procession advanced through the town, they were greeted by the cheers of an immense number of spectators, and every window displayed beauty and smiling approbation. At five o'clock, his majesty in council entertained his loyal subjects with a sumptuous dinner at the principal hotel. After the cloth was removed, 'His majesty's well-loved cousin, King George the Third,' and various other toasts appropriate to the occasion, were drunk.

The king's secretary then read, by desire of his majesty, the following speech:

'Gentlemen and loyal subjects—It is with the greatest pleasure imaginable that I have communicated to you how much I feel myself gratified in the manner which you have entertained yourselves this day. It has been, as I wished, and I am happy to say I have not been in the smallest degree disappointed.

Gentlemen—It is upwards of half a century since a procession was performed here, and

those who attended that procession for the most part are now no more. This may probably be the case with us before another shall take place. I therefore hope, gentlemen, that your conduct during the remainder of this evening will be such as I have reason to expect from what is past, so that the memorable events of this day may be transmitted to posterity, and there be found worthy of imitation.

'Gentlemen—Be assured that your happiness at all times will be to me a source of the greatest pleasure. Please to accept of my highest esteem and respect.

'KING CRISPIN.'

The assembly now rose, and adjourned to the ball room, where the merry dance on the light fantastic toe displayed the taste, elegance, and envied beauty of King Crispin's empire.

Nothing could excel the politeness of conduct and demeanour with which both dinner and ball were conducted; doing honour to themselves and the country they inhabit.

King Crispin's day, though not often, nor everywhere observed with such splendour as on the preceding occasion, is always a day sacred to pastime among the fraternity of shoemakers and cobblers. A striking instance of this is related to have occurred at Brussels during the reign of Charles the Fifth. That sagacious sovereign, in order to know the sentiments of his meanest subjects respecting his administration, was often in the practice of going about in disguise, and mixing his familiar conversation with whatever society he chanced to meet. One night he went to the house of a cobbler, on pretence of wanting his boot mended. It happened to be King Crispin's holiday, and instead of finding the cobbler inclined for work, he was in the height of jollity among some other sons of the trade. The emperor acquainted him with what he wanted, and offered a handsome gratuity. 'What, friend,' says the fellow, 'do you know no better than to ask any of our craft to work on King Crispin's day? were it Charles the Fifth himself, I would not do a stitch for him now; but if you will come in and drink King Crispin, do, and welcome, we are as merry as the emperor can be.' The sovereign accepted his offer; but while he was contemplating their rude pleasure, instead of joining in it, the jovial host thus accosted him: 'What, I suppose you are some courtier, politician, or other, by that thinking phiz; nay, by your long nose, you may be a relation of the emperor's, but be you who or what you may, you are heartily welcome; drink about, here's Charles the Fifth's health.' 'Then you love Charles the Fifth?' replied the emperor. 'Love him!' says the son of Crispin, 'aye, aye, I love his long noseship well enough, but I should love him much more would he but tax us a little less; but what have we to do with politics? round be the glass, and merry be our hearts.'

After a short stay the emperor took leave, and thanked the cobbler for his hospitable re-

ception. 'That,' cried he, 'you are welcome to; but I would not have dishonoured St. Crispin to work for the emperor.'

The cobbler was sent for next morning to court. Imagine his surprise when he found his late guest was his sovereign; he was in a terrible fright lest the joke on his nose should be punished with death; the emperor thanked him for his hospitality, and, as a reward for it, bade him ask for what he desired, and take the whole night to consider of it. The next day he appeared, and requested that, for the future, the cobblers of Flanders might bear for their arms a boot with the emperor's crown upon it. That request was granted; and so moderate was his ambition, that the emperor bade him make another request. 'If,' says he, 'then I am to have my utmost wishes, command that, for the future, the company of cobblers shall take place of the company of shoemakers.' It was accordingly so ordained; and to this day there is to be seen a chapel in Brussels, adorned with a boot and an imperial crown on it; and in all processions the company of cobblers take place of the company of shoemakers.

Javanese Dancing.

No nation ever carried a love of dancing to such an excess as the Javanese. There is scarcely an occasion, whether serious or comic, in which they do not cut the most extraordinary capers. If a warrior throws out a defiance to his enemy it is done in a dance, in which he brandishes his spear and kris, pronouncing an emphatic challenge. If a native of the same country runs a muck, ten to one but he braves death in a dancing posture. When they swear eternal hatred to their enemies, or fidelity to their friends, the solemnity is accompanied by a dance, in which a great deal of vivacity is displayed. All orders executed in the presence of a Javanese monarch, on public occasions, are accompanied by a dance. When a message is to be conveyed to the royal ear, the messenger advances with a solemn dance, and retreats in the same way. The ambassadors from one native prince in Java to another, follow the same course when coming into, and retiring from, the presence of the sovereign to whom they are deputed.

Previous to the introduction of the Mahomedan religion, it appears to have been the custom in all the oriental islands, for the men of rank, at their public festivities, when heated with wine, to dance. Upon such occasions, the exhibition appears to have been a kind of war dance. The dancer drew his kris, and went through all the evolutions of a mock-fight. At present the practice is most common among the Javanese, with every chief of whom dancing, far from being considered scandalous, as among the people of Western India, is held to be a necessary accomplishment. Respectable women, however, never join in it, and with that sex, dancing is confined to those whose profession it is. In the

most crowded circle of strangers, a Javanese chief will exhibit in the mazes of the dance with an ordinary dancing girl. The dance, at such times, is nothing more than the slow and solemn pacing exhibited on other occasions.

The professed dancers differ little but in inferiority of skill, from the common dancing girls of Hindostan. The music to which the dancing is performed, is indeed generally incomparably better than that of Western India, although the vocal part of it is equally harsh and dissonant. Now and then a single voice of great tenderness and melody may be found; but whenever an effort is made at raising it for the accommodation of an audience, it becomes harsh and unmusical. The songs sung on such occasions, are often nothing more than unpremeditated effusions; but among the Javanese, there are some national ballads that might bear a comparison with the boasted odes of the Persian minstrels.

The Charmed Warriors.

When the Cossacks were at Dresden in 1813, one of them chanced to hear a young lady of a respectable family playing on the pianoforte, and singing. As if enchanted, he followed the melodious sounds, pursued his way up stairs, from room to room, and after traversing several apartments, discovered the right one. He entered, and stood listening behind the lonely musician, who, half dead with fear, on perceiving the figure of her martial visitor in a mirror, would naturally have run away. He detained her, and in unintelligible language, with friendly gestures begged for a *duo*; and without ceremony, fetched his comrades out of the street. The music soon relaxed the joints of the bearded warriors, and in a few moments they struck up a charming Cossack dance, in the best room in the house. The trembling girl was obliged to summon up all her courage and strength, that her fingers might not refuse to perform their office in this critical juncture. She returned sincere thanks to heaven when the dance was over, and was not a little surprised, when one of the delighted performers, with the most cordial gestures, laid a piece of gold on the pianoforte. It was to no purpose that the young lady refused it; the donors retired, leaving behind them the piece of money, which the fair owner will doubtless preserve with care, as a memorial of the lovers of dancing and music from the deserts of Asia.

British Archers.

There are several societies of archers in England, the chief of which are the *Woodmen of Arden* and the *Toxophilites*; but the Scottish Royal Company of Archers is the most remarkable of the kind now existing.

The ancient records of the Royal Company of Archers having been destroyed by fire

about the beginning of the last century, no authentic traces of the institution of this society now remain. It has been said, however, that it owes its origin to the commissioners appointed in the reign of James I. of Scotland, for enforcing the exercise of archery in the different counties. These commissioners having picked out some of the most dexterous archers from among the better sort of people, formed them into a company, and upon perilous occasions the honourable post was assigned to them of defending the king's person as body guards. This rank of the king's principal body guards, the Royal Company still claim within six miles of the metropolis of Scotland.

It is certain that, in 1677, this company was recognised by an act of the Scottish privy council, under the title of 'His Majesty's Company of Archers;' and by the same act, a piece of plate, of the value of £20 sterling, was ordered to be given to be shot for by them at their annual parades, called *weapon shawings*, and to be called the *king's prize*. But in consequence of their avowed attachment to the royal family of Stuart, the revolution under King William nearly put a period to their existence. The royal prize was withheld, and their parades discontinued. Upon the accession of Queen Anne, however, the leaders of the Scottish Jacobites restored the society, that under the pretence of exercising the ancient art of archery, they might have an opportunity of holding public meetings and processions under authority of law. Accordingly, as a society of archers, with the celebrated Sir George M'Kenzie, then Lord Tarbat, and secretary of state, and afterwards Earl of Cromarty, as their captain-general, they obtained from Queen Anne in the year 1703, a charter under the great seal, erecting them into a royal company, reviving the laws in favour of archery, authorizing them to admit members, and appoint their commanding officers, and to meet and go forth under their officers' conduct in military form, in manner of *weapon shawing*, as often as they should think convenient. The first time they displayed any military parade was in 1714, amidst the critical state of public affairs during Queen Anne's last illness. On the 4th of June, the Earl of Cromarty, their captain-general, although then upwards of eighty years of age, and the Earl of Wemyss, as their lieutenant-general, marched at the head of about fifty noblemen and gentlemen, clothed in uniform, equipped in military array, and distinguished by their proper standards, from the Parliament Square to the Palace of Holyrood House, thence to Leith, where they shot for the silver arrow given by the city of Edinburgh, and returned in similar parade, having received from the different guards which they passed, the same military salutations or honours that are paid to any body of the king's forces. Next year the Earl of Cromarty being dead, the Earl of Wemyss headed a procession, in which above a hundred of the nobility and gentry assisted.

After the rebellion in 1715, the archers dis-

continued their public parade for some years, but afterwards resumed it. They were justly regarded with jealousy by government, as attached to the unfortunate family of Stuart; nobody being for many years admitted into their society that was not supposed to entertain this sentiment. The unhappy differences upon this subject having subsided, the Royal Company once more revived during the late reign. His Majesty, George III., as a mark of his royal patronage and approbation, renewed the royal prize, which was first shot for upon the 28th of July, 1788, by a numerous and respectable meeting, and was won by James Gray, Esq., writer in Edinburgh.

After this, the woodmen of Arden and the Toxophilites admitted the members of the Royal Company to the freedom of their societies, and reciprocal diplomas were in return granted by the Royal Company; so that these three principal societies of archers in Britain are united into one.

Besides the royal prize already mentioned, the company shoot annually for four other prizes; a silver arrow from the town of Musselburgh, another from the town of Peebles, a third from the city of Edinburgh, and a silver punch-bowl of about the value of £50, made of *Scottish silver* at the expense of the company. All these prizes are shot for, at what is termed *rovers*, the marks being placed at a distance of one hundred and eighty-five yards.

In addition to all these, there is another prize annually contended for at butt or point blank distance, called the *Goose*. According to the ancient manner of shooting for this prize, a living goose was built in a turf butt, having the head only exposed to view; and the archer who first hit the goose's head was entitled to the goose as his reward. But this custom, on account of its barbarity, has been long ago laid aside; and in the place of the goose's head, a mark of about an inch in diameter is fixed upon each butt; and the archer who first hits this mark, is captain of the butt shooters for a year.

The Royal Company now consists of above one thousand members, among whom are most of the Scottish nobility of the first distinction. The uniform of the Royal Company of archers is tartan lined with white, and trimmed with green and white fringes, a white sash with green tassels, and a blue bonnet, with a St. Andrew's cross and feathers. The company have two standards. The first of these bears on one side Mars and Cupid encircled in a wreath of thistles, with this motto, '*In peace and war*;' on the other a yew tree, with two men dressed and equipped as archers, encircled as the former; motto, '*Dat gloria vires*.' The other standard displays on one side a lion rampant gules on a field or, encircled with a wreath; on the top, a thistle and crown; motto, '*Nemo me impune lacessit*.' On the reverse, St. Andrew on the cross on a field argent; at the top, a crown; motto, '*Dulce pro patria periculum*.'

Great Coursing Match.

In February, 1798, a brace of greyhounds, the property of James Courtall, Esq., of Carlisle, coursed a hare from the Swift, near that city, and killed her at Glenmell, seven miles distant. Both greyhounds were so exhausted, that unless the aid of some medical men, who were upon the spot, had been immediately given, they would have died; and it was with difficulty they were recovered. Upwards of two hundred gentlemen were present, and more money was supposed to be laid than on any similar occasion; at starting, it was even betting, the hare against the dogs. The hare, which had been often coursed, and always beat her pursuers easily, was allowed two hundred yards law.

Duplicity Punished.

A party of gentlemen had assembled at a country mansion, to pass the evening at cards; but the stakes, according to the custom of the host, being limited, the game became rather flat, when one of the company, a Mr. L., said laughingly, 'Come, gentlemen, this is confoundedly dull work. Suppose we set our wits to contrive something livelier?' The proposition met with general assent, and various novel subjects for wagering were suggested. The original proposer at last exclaimed, 'Gentlemen, I have hit it; you all know the chequered floor of Squire Rigby's great hall; let each throw ten guineas into a hat, and he who guesses nearest the exact number of pieces in the floor shall take all.' The idea pleased, and the stakes were immediately deposited. While the company were proceeding with their guessing, a valet, who had overheard the wager, entered, and presented his master, Mr. W., with a letter, which he said had just been left for him. The letter contained these few words.

'Master—I saw Mr. L. counting the chequers at Squire Rigby's. The exact number is three hundred and seventy-nine.'

Mr. W. said nothing, but put the letter in his pocket, and waited till his turn, for guessing came round. Mr. L., the honest proposer of the wager, apprehensive that if he fixed upon the exact number, it might lead to suspicion, thought it would look better, and be quite as secure, to choose that next to it; he accordingly called out three hundred and seventy-eight. Mr. W., who followed, relying on the secret, pronounced the actual number, three hundred and seventy-nine. The astonishment and chagrin of Mr. L. may be easily conceived; it was not without some difficulty he managed to conceal it from the observation of the company. A messenger was dispatched to Rigby Hall, which was at no great distance, to ascertain how the fact stood; and on his return, three hundred and seventy-nine was declared to be the winning number. Mr. W. of course pocketed the handful of guineas. Next morning, however, he sent to each *gentleman* of the party his

ten guineas, enclosed in a note, explaining the whole matter, and to Mr. L. an intimation in these terms:

'Mr. W., the winner of the wager made last night about Rigby Hall, has returned to each of the gentlemen who were parties to it the amount of his stake. Mr. L.'s ten guineas he has given to be distributed among the poor of the parish. If Mr. L. desires an explanation of this proceeding, he shall have it.'

It is scarcely necessary to say, that no explanation was required or demanded. Conscious of his guilt, Mr. L. submitted in silence to the disgrace which it entailed.

Lammas Festival.

In an unenclosed corn country, unless the soil is remarkably fertile, a part of the fields must be left in grass, for the pasturage of horses, cattle, or sheep; and as all these must be guarded by herds while grazing, it will necessarily happen, that in these circumstances a great number of boys and young lads will be employed during the summer months in tending the beasts. About half a century ago, this was generally the case with the greatest part of the county of Edinburgh. These herds, as is natural for young persons who have much idle time on their hands, devised many kinds of pastime, with which they occasionally diverted themselves; but none was more remarkable than the celebration of the Lammas festival.

All the herds within a certain district, towards the beginning of summer, associated themselves into bands, sometimes to the number of a hundred or more. Each of these communities agreed to build a tower in some conspicuous place, near the centre of their district, which was to serve as the place of their rendezvous on Lammas day. This tower was usually built of sods; for the most part square, about four feet in diameter at the bottom, and tapering to a point at the top, which was seldom above seven or eight feet from the ground. In building it, a hole was left in the centre for admitting a flagstaff, on which they displayed their colours on the great day of the festival.

This tower was usually begun to be built about a month before Lammas, and was carried up slowly by successive additions from time to time, being seldom entirely completed till a few days before Lammas, though it was always thought that those who completed theirs soonest, and kept it standing the longest time before Lammas, behaved in the most gallant manner, and acquired the most honour by their conduct.

From the moment the foundation of the tower was laid, it became an object of care and attention to the whole community, for it was reckoned a disgrace to suffer it to be defaced, so that they resisted with all their power any attempts that should be made to demolish it, either by force or fraud; and as the honour that was acquired by the demolition of a

ower, if effected by those belonging to another, was in proportion to the disgrace of offering it to be demolished, each party endeavoured to circumvent the other as much as possible, and laid plans to steal upon the other tower unperceived, in the night time, and level it with the ground. Great was the honour that such a successful exploit conveyed to the undertakers; and though the tower was easily rebuilt, and soon put in its former state, yet the news was quickly spread, the successful adventurers, through the whole district, which filled it with shouts of joy and exultation, while their unfortunate neighbours were covered with shame. To add off this disgrace, a constant nightly ward was kept at each tower, which was made stronger and stronger as the tower advanced, so that frequent nightly skirmishes ensued at these attacks, but were seldom of much consequence, as the assailants seldom came in force to make an attack in this way, it merely to succeed by surprise; as soon, therefore, as they saw they were discovered, they made off in the best manner they could. To give the alarm on these and on other occasions, every person was armed with a shouting horn, that is, a horn perforated in the middle end, through which wind can be forcibly blown from the mouth, so as to occasion a loud sound; and as everyone wished to acquire as great dexterity as possible in the use of this instrument, they practised upon it during the summer, while keeping their fests; and towards Lammas they were so essentially employed at this business, answered to, and vying with, each other, that the whole country rang continually with the sounds; and it must no doubt have appeared to be a very harsh and unaccountable noise to strangers passing by.

As the great day of Lammas approached, the community chose one from among themselves for their captain; and they prepared a kind of colours to be ready to be then displayed. For this purpose, they usually borrowed a fine table napkin of the largest size, and some of the farmers' wives within the district; and, to ornament it, they also borrowed ribbons from those who would lend them, which they tacked upon the napkin in a fashion as best suited their fancy. Every thing being thus prepared, they marched very early in the morning on Lammas day, dressed in their best apparel, each armed with a cudgel, and repairing to their tower, they displayed their colours in triumph, waving horns, and making merry in the best manner they could. About nine o'clock they lay down upon the green, and each taking his pocket bread and cheese, or other provisions, they make a hearty breakfast, drinking pure water from a well, which they always took care should be near the scene of banquet.

In the meantime, scouts were sent out in every quarter, to bring them notice of any hostile party approached; for it frequently happened on that day, that the herds of the district went to attack those of another

district, and to bring them under subjection to them by main force. If news was brought that a hostile party approached, the horns sounded to arms. They were immediately put into the best order they could devise, the stoutest and boldest in front, and those of inferior powers behind. Seldom did they wait the approach of the enemy, but usually went forth to meet them with a bold countenance, the captain of each party carrying the colours and leading the van. When they met, they mutually desired each other to lower their colours in sign of subjection; and if there appeared to be a great disproportion in the strength of the parties, the weakest usually submitted to this ceremony without much difficulty, thinking their honour was saved by the evident disproportion of the match. But if they were nearly equal in strength, none of them would yield, and the rivalry ended in blows, sometimes in bloodshed. A battle of this kind once occurred, in which four were actually killed, and many wounded. Dr. Anderson, the ingenious editor of the *Bee*, was once witness to a meeting of this sort, where he supposes there were more than a hundred on each side, who were so nearly equal, that neither of them would yield. When upon the point of engaging, a farmer, a stout active young man, who dreaded the consequences, came galloping up to them, and going between the two parties, with great difficulty, by threats and entreaties, got them to desist till he should speak coolly to them. He at last got the matter compromised one way or other, so as to end the strife without blows.

When they had remained at their tower till about mid-day, if no opponent appeared, or if they themselves had no intention of making an attack, they then took down their colours, and marched with horns sounding towards the most considerable village in their district, where the lasses, and all the people, came out to meet them, and partake of their diversions. Boundaries were immediately appointed, and a proclamation made that all who intended to compete in the race, should appear. A bonnet ornamented with ribbons was displayed upon a pole, as the prize of the victor; and sometimes five or six started for it, and ran with as great eagerness as if they had been to gain a kingdom. The prize of the second race was a pair of garters; and the third, a knife; they then amused themselves for some time with such rural sports as suited their tastes, and dispersed quietly to their respective homes before sunset.

When two parties met, and one of them yielded to the other, they marched together some time in two separate bodies, the subjected body behind the other, and then they parted good friends, each performing their races at their own appointed place. Next day, after the ceremony was over, the ribbons and napkin that formed the colours, were carefully returned to their respective owners. The tower was no longer a matter of consequence, and the country returned to its usual state of tranquillity.

The Lammas festival no longer ranks among the amusements of the Scottish Lowlands; but Lammas towers (many of these being built of stone) are still to be met with in different parts; and the name will probably remain long after the pastime with which it was connected, is forgotten.

Crow Shooting in Italy.

A recent traveller gives the following remarkable account of crow shooting in Italy:—'Being called up (says the author) early in the morning, a few days after Christmas, we proceeded with two servants about a mile from the city of Milan, and entered a large meadow covered with hoar frost, when my friends conducted me to a cottage, a little on one side of the meadow, where we found five or six peasants, with a good fire, and several fowling pieces, and abundance of ammunition in readiness. Being told that everything was not prepared, we drank coffee till the peasants, who had left us about an hour, returned, and informed us that we might proceed as soon as we pleased. We, however, advanced no further than the porch of the house, where, as we waited some time without the appearance of any crows, I was questioning myself what this farce would end in, when we first saw about fifty of them flying at a considerable height, but directly towards us. I was eager to fire at them, but my friend checked my ardour; stay, said he, they will descend presently, and approach so near to us, that we may shoot them without trouble. And soon after, to my utter astonishment, I observed them stop their course all at once, take several circuits round the meadow, and afterwards descend a few at a time upon the ground upon which we were waiting for their appearance. Not knowing the secret, my curiosity still increased, especially as I observed that the whole of them not only descended, but that they seemed to have stationed themselves, as it were, in various parts of the field. But this was not all: for, upon a closer inspection, I found their heads were absolutely fixed upon the ground, from whence, after a struggle of some duration, I saw them successively rising, and apparently with a white cap upon their heads, and which I soon perceived to be made of strong cartridge paper. It was now that this comedy commenced, and began to take a tragical turn; for the crows, to liberate themselves, putting themselves in a number of laughable attitudes, brought forward the peasants, who, clapping their hands, and setting up a loud cry, the motion of the crows became the most confused imaginable; flight, if such an awkward movement deserves the name, was in all directions, often striking against each other, and that with such force, as frequently brought them to the ground. It should be observed, that the noise of their talons scratching upon the thick paper caps that enclosed their heads, had no small effect; till in the end, taking to our firearms, we were employed near an hour in shooting

them, at the termination of which, I was informed by my friends, that holes being purposely dug in the ground, and filled with papers of a conical form, and the narrow extremities of the latter containing each a piece of raw meat, it was the smell of the flesh that brought the crows to the spot. It is further to be observed, that the inside of this paper cap was so copiously larded with birdlime, attached so much the closer by the pressure of the crows' heads after the meat, that it was impossible for them to disengage themselves.

Coronation Feast.

At the coronation of Queen Mary, 1553 amongst other pageants and shows which were exhibited in the City of London, as the queen passed from the Tower to Westminster, was the following singular feat, which is thus described by Hollinshed:—'Then there was one Peter, a Dutchman, that stood on the wethercocke of St. Paule's steeple, holding streamer in his hand of five yards long, and waving thereof, stood sometimes on the one foot, and shooke the other, and then knelt on his knees, to the great marvell of all people. He had made two scaffolds under him, one above the crosse, having torches and streamers set on it, and on the ball of the crosse, likewise with streamers and torches, which could not burne, the wind was so great. The said Peter had £16 13s. given him by the city for his costes and paines, and for all his stuffe.

Dancing before a King.

The following is an extract from authentic MS. relative to the private expenses of Edward VI.:—'Item, the 11th day of March, paid James St. Albans, the king's painter, who danced before the king on a table, and made him laugh heartily, being a gift by the king's own hands, in aid of him, his wife, and children, £1 1s.'

Shooting for the 'Siller Gun.'

The same policy which led James I. of Scotland to encourage the practice of archery by instituting annual prizes to be shot for with the bow and arrow, induced a less sagacious prince, James VI., to promote skill in the use of firearms, by presenting to the corporation of one or two of the Scotch boroughs a miniature gun in silver, the temporary possession of which as a trophy, was ordered to be given to the best shot among them. Dumfries and Kirkcudbright are, it is believed, the only towns which still possess royal gifts of this description, and where the ceremony of 'shooting for the siller gun,' is yet at times observed. In the former place, the gun continues to be shot for once in every five years; but in the latter, it is now forty years since any competition took place.

The incidents attending a festival of this description are very happily described in

Scotch poem of great humour, by Mr. John Layne, entitled, 'The Siller Gun.' It was written on one of the contests for this royal prize at Dumfries, on the 4th of June, 1777 :-

'Atween the last, and this occasion,
Lang, unco lang, seemed the vacation,
To him wha woos sweet recreation
In Nature's prime,
And him wha likes a day's potation
At any time !

'The lift was clear, the morn serene,
The sun just glinting o'er the scene,
When James M'Noe began again
To beat to arms !
Rousing the heart o' man and wean
Wi war's alarms.

'Frae far and near, the country lads
Their joes ahint them on their pads
Flocked in to see the show in squads ;
And what was daster,
Their pawky mothers, and their dads,
Came trotting after.

And mony a beau and belle were there,
Doited wi' dozing on a chair,
Nae, lest they'd sleeping spoil their hair,
Or miss the sight,
The gowks, like bairns before a fair
Sat up a' night.

Wi hats as black as ony raven,
Fresh as the rose, their beards new shaven ;
And a' their Sunday's cleeding having,
Sae trim and gay ;
Forth came our trades, some ora saving,
To wair that day.'

* * * * *

Their steps to martial airs agreeing,
And a' the seven trades colours fleeing,
Sent for the Craigs, O ! weel worth seeing,
They hied awa ;
Their bauld convener proud o' being
The chief o'er a' !

The 'Craigs' are a very romantic range of hills, in the vicinity of Dumfries. The corporations are privileged to shoot for the siller gun at the Kingholme, which is part of the common land belonging to the town, and bounded by the waters of the Nith ; but 'the gowks' are always preferred, as being better suited for the purpose.

At the conclusion of the sport, the procession goes homeward in the same order in which it went out ; but with the victor marching in front, and the siller gun tied to his hat with ribbons :

In Willie's hat wi' ribbons bound,
The gunny was wi' laurel crown'd.'

Although the siller gun is adjudged as a trophy to the best marksman, and worn by him in his hat for the day, it is only really his property, being invariably reshod at the end of the festivity for some other equivalent, and till another jubilee, deposited in the strong box of the corpora-

The Duke of Grafton.

The late Duke of Grafton, when hunting, was thrown into a ditch. At this moment a young curate called out, 'Lie still, my lord ;' and leaping over him, pursued his sport. Such an apparent want of feeling might have been supposed to offend his Grace ; but on the contrary, he knew the enthusiastic ardour which the chase excites, and on being helped out by his attendant, enquired the name of the curate, saying, 'He shall have the first good living that falls to my disposal for his sportsmanlike courage ; but had he stopped to have taken care of me, I would never have thought of noticing him.'

The Scorpion.

The Algerines frequently amuse themselves by a curious kind of warfare, which is created by shutting up a scorpion and a rat together in a close cage, when a terrible contest ensues, which has been sometimes known to continue for above an hour. It generally ends by the death of the scorpion first, and that of the rat in violent convulsions soon after. It is also a favourite diversion with the Moors, to surround a scorpion with a circle of straw, to which fire is applied. After making several attempts to pass the flames, it turns on itself, and thus becomes its own executioner.

Boar Hunting.

When the Duke of Wellington was with the army of occupation in France, he frequently enjoyed the sports of the chase. On one occasion his hounds discovered an enormous boar in the forest of Wallincourt, which they vigorously pursued through the forest of Ardipart, when he took to the plain, and before he could reach another road was brought to bay. The animal now become ferocious, destroyed all the dogs that approached him. One of the Duke's aides-de-camp plunged his spear into the side of the boar, but this only rendered him still more savage ; when his Grace seeing more of his dogs destroyed, rode up, and parrying the efforts of the boar to wound his horse, raised his spear, and gave him the *coup-de-grace*. Of the numerous field of sportsmen that commenced the chase, only five besides his Grace were in at the death.

Hunting the Bear.

Among the North American Indians, hunting the bear is a matter of the first importance. A principal warrior gives a general invitation to all the hunters, who having selected their spot, proceed towards it in a direct line, driving before them and encircling all the beasts they can find in their way, searching every hollow tree and every place where a bear might retreat. As soon as a bear is killed, a hunter puts into his mouth a

lighted pipe of tobacco, and blowing into it, fills the throat with the smoke, conjuring the spirit of the animal not to resent what they are going to do to its body, nor to render their future chases unsuccessful. As the beast makes no reply, they cut out the string of the tongue, and throw it into the fire. If it crackles and runs in, which it is almost sure to do, they consider it as a good omen; if not, they consider that the spirit of the beast is not appeased, and that the chase of the next year will be unfortunate. The hunters return home with great pride, for to kill a bear is one of their greatest triumphs.

Spanish Fox Chase.

During the Peninsular war in 1813, the fox-hounds of General Sir Rowland Hill, unkennelled a fox in the neighbourhood of Corja, in Spain. The run was severe for the space of thirty minutes, when the fox, being sharply pressed by the leading hounds, leaped down a precipice of sixty yards perpendicular; seven couple of the hounds immediately dashed after him, six couple of which were killed on the spot; the remainder of the pack (twenty-two couple) would have shared the same fate, had not the most forward riders, among whom were Sir R. Hill, Col. Delancey, and Col. Brooke, arrived in time to flog them off; which they did with difficulty, being scarcely able to restrain their impetuosity. The fox was found in the bottom dead, and covered with the bodies of the hounds. The Marquis of Alamada, the Spanish nobleman of that part of the country, narrowly escaped being precipitated over the cliff, being mounted on a spirited horse, which at the moment he could not manage.

The Biters Bit.

A few years ago, a ludicrous circumstance took place at one of the billiard rooms at Rams-gate. A clodpole made his appearance, dressed like a wealthy rustic, using such awkward expressions, and broad provincial terms, interspersed with such strokes of apparently untutored wit, as provoked his polished hearers into repeated bursts of laughter. The men of *science* were anxious to bet with him; but he declined, 'until he saw how the *land laid*.' However, he agreed to play a few games for as many shillings. He lost his money and his patience. His antagonist then allowed him to win. He exulted—became warm; when he lost again; and under the influence of his feelings, proceeded, until £20 were gone. He then declined playing for a less sum than £50; to which his adversary, with *apparent* reluctance, acceded. The countryman played and won; they played again, and again, for the same sum. In short, what with winning fifties from *one*, and betting with *all*, the *macers* were all (as the fashionable term has it) *cleaned out*.

Now, after the company had enjoyed themselves for upwards of an hour at the expense of the *Joskin*, as they called him, he, all of sudden, threw off his disguised rusticity, joined in the general conversation in a language of a man of the world, and covered himself in his real character.

The Golf.

The golf is an amusement said to be peculiar to Scotland. Here it is very ancient. By a statute of James II., in 1547, it is prohibited, that it may not interfere with the weapon shawings, that is, with the military exercise of archery. It is commonly played on rugged ground, covered with bent, short grass, upon the sea shore, called Scotland *Links*. The game is usually played by parties of one or two on each side. Each person provides himself with balls and a set of clubs. The ball is extremely hard, about the size of a tennis ball. The club with which the ball is usually struck is slender and elastic, crooked at the head, which is faced with horn and loaded with lead, to render it heavy. A set of clubs consists of five number, a play club, a scraper, a spoon, an iron-headed club, and a short club, called *putter*. The second, third, and fourth of these are adapted for removing the ball from the various inconvenient situations into which it may come in the course of the game. The *putter* is used where a short stroke is intended. The golf is played thus:—Small holes are made in the ground at the distance of about a quarter of a mile from each other, and such a direction as to encompass the whole field. The game is won by the party who lodges his ball in the different holes in succession with the fewest strokes. The art of the game consists, *first*, at the outset for each hole, of striking the ball to a great distance, and in a proper direction, so that it may rest upon smooth ground; and *second*, which is of the greatest importance when near the hole, of so proportioning the force and direction of the stroke, or *putting*, as is called, that the ball may, with few strokes, be driven into the hole. The game is played at Leith Links, and upon a piece of ground south from Edinburgh, which receives the appellation of *Bruntsfield Links*.

There is a company of golfers who play annually for a silver club, originally given them by the Town Council of Edinburgh, in 1744. The game affords an active but not violent exercise in the open air, and is therefore not unsuitable to the sedentary habits of the citizens of a large town.

When James the Second, while Duke of York, kept a court at the palace of Holyrood House, he was frequently seen in a party to play golf on the links of Leith, with some of the nobility and gentry. Mr. Tytler, of Wodhouselee, says that he remembers in his youth to have often conversed with an old man named Andrew Dickson, a golf club maker, who said that, when a boy, he used to carry

the duke's golf clubs, and to run before him and announce where the balls fell.

Charles I. is said to have been also very fond of the exercise of golf. He was engaged in a party at golf, on the Links of Leith, when a letter was delivered into his hands which gave him the first account of the insurrection in Ireland. On reading it, he suddenly called for his coach, and leaning on one of his attendants, and in great agitation, drove to the palace of Holyrood House, from whence next day he set out for London.

Bear Baiting.

This is one of the favourite sports of our ancestors, now sunk into almost utter disuse. Bear baiting was anciently a royal pastime. Sir Thomas Pope entertained Queen Mary and the Princess Elizabeth, at Hatfield, with an exhibition of bear baiting, with which, we are told, their highnesses were well content. It was a favourite amusement with Queen Elizabeth, with which, among other things, she was entertained in the 'princely pleasures of Kenilworth.' There is a grant of this queen to Sir Saunders Duncombe, dated October 11, 1561, 'for the sole practice and profit of the fighting and combating of wild and domestic beasts within the realm of England, for the space of fourteen years,' and so much did England's maiden queen esteem the refined pleasure of bear baiting, that there is an order of the Privy Council, dated July, 1591, prohibiting any plays from being publicly exhibited on Thursdays, because on that day bear baiting and similar pastimes had been usually practised, as it was complained that the reciting of plays was a 'great hurt and destruction of the game of bear baiting and like pastimes, which are maintained for her majesty's pleasure.'

The office of chief master of the bears was formerly held under the crown, with a salary of one shilling and fourpence per day. Whenever the king chose to entertain himself or his visitors with this sport, it was the duty of the master to provide bears and dogs, and to superintend the baiting, and he was invested with unlimited authority to issue commissions and to send his officers into every county of England, who were empowered to seize and carry away any bears, bulls, or dogs that they thought fit, for his majesty's service.

The Afghauns.

The Afghauns of Caubul have perhaps as great a variety of amusements as any nation in the world. Every European field sport is practised by them, nor are races uncommon, particularly at weddings. Most of their domestic games appear childish, and can scarcely be reconciled to their long beards and grave behaviour. Marbles are played by grown up men throughout the whole of the Afghaun country, and in Persia. Another game very

generally played is called *khogsye* by the Doorauces, and *cabuddee* by the Tanjeks. A man takes his left foot in his right hand, and hops about on one leg, endeavouring to overturn his adversary, who advances in the same way. This pastime is played by several persons on a side, and to a stranger appears very complicated. Quoits, played with circular flat stones, and hunt the slipper, played with a cap, are also very common, as are wrestling and other trials of strength and skill.

Combats of quails, cocks, dogs, rams, and even camels, are much admired. Camels sometimes fight with so much fury that the spectators are obliged to stand out of the way, as the defeated camel generally runs off at his utmost speed, and is often pursued by the victor to a distance from the field of battle. All these games are played for some stake, sometimes for money, but much more frequently for a dinner.

The gymnastic exercises of the Afghauns are numerous. In one of them the performer places himself on his hands and toes, with his arms stiff, and his body horizontal at a distance from the ground. He then throws his body forward, and at the same time bends his arms, so that his chest almost sweeps the ground. When his body is as far thrown forward as possible, he draws it back to the utmost, straightens his arms, and is prepared to repeat the motion. A person unused to this exercise could not perform it ten times without intermission, but such is the strength it confers that an English officer who practised it was able to go through it six hundred times without stopping, and that twice a day.

Another exercise is whirling a heavy club round the head, in a way that requires the exertion of the whole body. It is either done with an immense club, held in both hands, or with one smaller club in each. A third exercise is to draw a very strong bow, which has a heavy iron chain instead of a ring. There are many other exercises intended to strengthen the whole or particular parts of the body, and which contribute much to that muscular strength which the Afghauns so decidedly possess.

The Duke of Hamilton.

The late Duke of Hamilton was a keen sportsman, and in all the manly exercises had few equals. His Grace was partial to pugilism, and was also one of the best cricketers of his day. There was a mark in Lord's old cricket ground, Marylebone, which was called the duke's stroke; it was of an unusual length, measuring from the wicket to where the ball fell, one hundred and thirty-two yards, a greater distance than a ball was almost ever struck, except by his Grace.

Another of the duke's amusements which he practised to get an appetite for breakfast, was to take a wherry at Westminster Bridge, and to give a waterman a guinea to row against him to Chelsea, where should the

waterman arrive first (which was seldom the case), he had an additional reward for his dexterity.

The Earl of Darlington.

The nobleman to whom these *Anecdotes* are inscribed, is what is technically called, 'a keen sportsman,' and devotes no inconsiderable share of a princely fortune to those rural sports which have in all ages numbered among their most ardent devotees, the British nobility. Fox-hunting is the favourite diversion of the Earl of Darlington, and his hounds are allowed to be of the first breed of any in the kingdom. His lordship is not only a principal of the chosen few who

'Alone the sport enjoy, nor droop beneath
Their pleasing toils;'

but he follows the maxim of the Orpheus of the Chase, Somerville, by first letting

'The kennel be the huntsman's care.'

The hounds of the Earl of Darlington are always either fed by his own hands, or under his personal superintendence, and he regularly hunts the pack himself. During the hunting season, his lordship is always to be found in the midst of horses, dogs, and sportsmen, and he only quits them for the duties of the senator. In the north of England, where there is a strong enthusiasm for the pleasures of the chase, the Earl of Darlington is almost

idolized, since wherever he appears, no one knows better than his lordship how

'To rein the steed
Swift stretching o'er the plain, to cheer the
pack,
Opening in consorts of harmonious joy.

In whatever part of the country the Earl of Darlington may be hunting with his own hounds, when the chase is over, and before he sits down to dinner, he enters in a journal kept for the purpose, the incidents of the day's sport. This diary, which is called 'Sporting Occurrences,' is printed at the end of every season, and distributed among the private friends, or rather the fellow sportsmen, of his lordship. The 'Sporting Occurrences' are preceded by a statement of the places where, and the times when, the hounds have thrown off, with a list of the preserves and coverts where foxes have been found; under each day the place where his lordship hunted, with the course and duration of the chase, are stated, with any particular incidents that have attended its progress. Several other minor circumstances are also noticed, as what horses of his lordship were rode by himself and some of his friends. These diaries, a very limited number of which are printed, are much valued by the favoured few who are honoured with such a mark of his lordship's friendship: and there is not, perhaps, a gentleman in possession of a copy of the 'Sporting Occurrences' of the Earl of Darlington, that would exchange it for the far-famed Valdarfer Decameron.



ANECDOTES OF WOMAN.

— 'Thou shalt stand
A deity, sweet WOMAN ! and be worshipped.'—FORD.

The More Family.

AT no period of our ancient history does there appear to have been greater attention paid to the culture of the female mind, than during the age of Elizabeth, and at no time has there existed a greater number of amiable and respectable women. The first place among the female worthies of this period, has, by universal consent, been assigned to the daughters of the celebrated Sir Thomas More. The family circle of which they formed the delight and ornament, has never perhaps been rivalled as an example of domestic harmony and love. Erasmus, in a letter to a friend, has thus enthusiastically described it. 'More,' says he, 'has built near London, on the banks of the Thames Chelsea, a commodious house, where he converses affably with his family, consisting of his wife, his son, and daughter-in-law, his three daughters, and their husbands, with eleven grandchildren. There is no man living so fond of his children, or who possesses a more excellent temper. You would call his house the academy of Plato. But I should do it an injury, by such a comparison; it is rather a school of Christian goodness, in which piety, virtue, and the liberal sciences are studied by every individual of the family. No wrangling or intemperate language is ever heard; no one is idle: the discipline of the household is courtesy and benevolence. Every one performs his duty with cheerfulness and alacrity.'

Mrs. Roper, the eldest daughter of this amiable family, was more peculiarly distinguished for her talents and genius. She is said to have written Latin in a pure and elegant style: her father delighted in holding an epistolary correspondence with her; and some of her letters, which he communicated in confidence to persons of the most distinguished abilities and learning, received high and just praise.

During the extraordinary malady called the sweating sickness, which commenced in the reign of Henry VII., 1483. and, spreading

its contagious influence to London, appeared again, at intervals, five times, till 1528, Mrs. Roper was seized with this disorder. While her recovery was doubtful, her father, who regarded her with peculiar tenderness, abandoned himself to the most violent sorrow; and protested, on her restoration to health, that had the malady proved fatal, it was his determination to have resigned all business, and for ever to have abjured the world.

Nor was her affection for her father less than that he entertained for her. When Sir Thomas refused to take the oath of supremacy to Henry VIII., and was thereupon committed to the Tower, overwhelmed with grief, his daughter was, through incessant importunity, at length allowed to visit him. When admitted to his presence, she left no argument, expostulation, or entreaty untried, to induce him to relent from his purpose. But her eloquence, her tenderness, and her tears, proved alike ineffectual; the principles and constancy of this great but unfortunate man, were not to be shaken. Margaret, less tenacious, or less bigoted, had herself taken the oath, with the following reservation: *as far as would stand with the law of God.*

The family, on this affecting occasion, seem again, from a letter addressed by Mrs. Roper to her father, to have assembled at Chelsea. 'What think you, my most dear father,' says she, 'doth comfort us in this your absence, at Chelsea? Surely the remembrance of your manner of life passed among us, your holy conversation, your wholesome counsels, your examples of virtue, of which there is hope that they do not only persevere with you, but that they are by God's grace much more increased.'

During the imprisonment of Sir Thomas, a frequent intercourse of letters passed between him and this beloved daughter; and when deprived of pen and ink, he contrived to write to her with a coal. These letters are of an affecting nature, and are printed at the conclusion of the works of Sir Thomas More, published by his nephew, Mr. Rastell.

It is related by Dr. Knight, in his life of Erasmus, that sentence having been passed on the chancellor, his daughter, as he was returning towards the Tower, rushing through the populace and guards, threw herself upon his neck, and, without speaking, in a stupor of despair, strained him closely in her arms. Even the guards, at this affecting scene, melted into compassion, while the fortitude of the illustrious prisoner nearly yielded. 'My dear Margaret,' said he, 'submit with patience; grieve no longer for me, it is the will of God, and must be borne.' Tenderly embracing her, he withdrew himself from her arms. He had not proceeded many paces, when she again rushed towards him, and again, in a paroxysm of sorrow, more eloquent than words, threw herself on his bosom. Tears flowed down the venerable cheeks of Sir Thomas, while he gazed on her in tender earnestness. Having entreated her prayers for him, he bade her affectionately farewell.

The cares of Margaret extended to the lifeless remains of her beloved parent. By her interest and exertions, his body was, after his execution, interred in the chapel of St. Peter's *ad vincula*, within the precincts of the Tower, and was afterwards removed, according to the appointment of Sir Thomas, during his life, to the chancel of the church at Chelsea. His head having remained fourteen days exposed upon London Bridge, in conformity to his sentence, was about to be cast into the Thames, when it was purchased by his daughter. Being on this occasion inhumanly summoned before the council, she firmly avowed and justified her conduct. This boldness did not escape the vengeance of the king. She was committed to prison; whence, after a short restraint, and vain attempt to subdue her courage by menaces, she was liberated, and restored to her husband and family. She survived her father only nine years, and died in 1544, in her thirty-sixth year. In compliance with her desire, the head of her father was interred with her, in her arms, as related by some; or according to others, deposited in a leaden box, and placed upon the coffin.

Husband and Wife.

Among some who have read 'Blackstone,' and more who have not, an opinion prevails, that a husband may chastise his wife, provided the weapon be not thicker than his little finger. For the honour of England, we wish we could pronounce this opinion as legally erroneous as it is ungallant and barbarous. It is much to the credit of our descendants on the other side of the Atlantic, that they have not carried with them this relic of the once savage state of their forefathers. In a case which came before the Supreme Court of South Carolina, some years ago, the presiding Judge summed up an admirable view of the law of the republic on the matrimonial relation, by quoting these lines

from the *Honey Moon*, which may be said to contain also the law of humanity on the subject:

'The man that lays his hand upon a woman,
Save in the way of kindness, is a wretch
Whom 'twere gross flattery to name a coward.'

The Maiden's Leap.

A daughter of the first Earl of Gowrie was courted by a young gentleman, much her inferior in rank and fortune. Her family, though they gave no encouragement to the match, permitted him to visit them at their castle of Ruthven in Perthshire; and on such occasions, the chamber assigned him was in a tower, near another tower in which the young lady slept. On one of his visits, the young lady, before the doors were shut, got into her lover's apartment; but some of the family having discovered it, told her mother, who cutting off, as she thought, all possibility of retreat, hastened to surprise them; the young lady, however, hearing the well-known steps of her mother hobbling upstairs, ran to the leads, and took a desperate leap of nine feet four inches, over a chasm of sixty feet from the ground, alighted on the battlements of the other tower, whence descending into her own chamber, she crept into bed. Her mother having in vain sought her in her lover's chamber, came into her room, where finding her seemingly asleep, she apologized for her unjust suspicion. The young lady eloped the following night, and was married. The chasm between the towers is still shown under the appellation of the Maiden's Leap.

Sappho.

Sappho's chief favourite, after the death of her husband, Cercolas, was the accomplished Phaon, a young man of Lesbos; who is said to have been a kind of ferryman, and thence fabled to have carried Venus over the stream in his boat, and to have received from her, as a reward, the favour of becoming the most beautiful man in the world. Sappho fell desperately in love with him; but Phaon, so far from returning her passion, is said to have fled into Sicily, on purpose to avoid her. To Sicily she hastened after him, and while there, composed her celebrated hymn to Venus. Phaon, however, was still obdurate; and Sappho was so transported with the violence of her passion, that she resolved, by a perilous expedient, to put an end to her sufferings and mortification, or perish in the attempt. For this purpose, she repaired to a promontory in Acarnania, called Leucate, or the Lover's Leap, which is fabled to have been resorted to by despairing lovers, under a belief, that on throwing themselves from the top of the precipice into the sea, they were sure to be cured of their passion, if taken up alive. The unhappy Sappho is said to have been the first

woman who tried the dangerous experiment, and perished in the trial.

According to Ovid, Phaon had first been kind, and then faithless; and it was in endeavouring to reclaim, and not to gain, a lover, that Sappho sunk into despair.

Alcæus, a contemporary poet, conceived a passion for Sappho; he wrote to her: 'I wish to explain myself,' said he; 'but shame restrains me.' 'Your countenance would not blush,' replied she, 'if your heart were not culpable.' Sappho professed to reconcile the love of pleasure and the love of virtue. 'Without virtue,' said she, 'nothing is so dangerous as riches; happiness consists in the union of both.'

It seems probable that the licentiousness ordinarily imputed to Sappho, may be a calumny. The extreme sensibility of the Greeks, and the animated language in which they were on all occasions accustomed to express their feelings, may mislead a modern reader. Persons of licentious manners, are seldom capable of the strong individual attachment which proved fatal to Sappho.

Arabian Respect to Women.

So great and so sacred is the respect of the Bedouin Arabs for the fair sex, that the presence, the voice even of a woman, can arrest the uplifted scimeter charged with death, and bid it fall harmless. Whoever has committed a crime, even murder, is safe if a woman takes him under her protection; and the right of pardoning is so completely established in favour of the sex, that, in some tribes where they never appear before men, and in others where they are occupied in the tents, if a criminal can escape to their tent, he is saved. The moment he is near enough to be heard, he cries aloud, 'I am under the protection of the harem!' At these words all the women reply, without appearing, 'Fly from him!' and were he condemned to death by the prince himself, and by the council of the principal persons of his tribe, the punishment of his crime is remitted without hesitation immediately, and he is allowed to go where he pleases.

Modern Mount Leucate.

In India, there is a rock sacred to Bhowanee, as the wife of the god Mahadeo is there called, which is devoted to a purpose similar to that of Mount Leucate of old, from which Sappho precipitated herself into the sea. It is situated about four miles south-west of Puchmarce: is one hundred and seventy feet high, and nearly perpendicular! A few years ago, Colonel Adams hearing that a woman was about to throw herself from this rock, in obedience to the superstition just alluded to, he charged a Hurkaru, named Ram Sing, to go and use every effort in his power to dissuade the deluded creature from putting her frantic resolve into execution. A Lieutenant

M'Naughten, who, out of curiosity, accompanied the Hurkaru, gives the following account of the scene which they witnessed. When they arrived at the rock, the intended victim was sitting on the ground, waiting for the arrival of the Brahmin, who was to assist at the ceremony. She was of the Rajpoot caste, and seemed to be about thirty years of age. It appeared that her father and mother were both dead; that her mother had formerly vowed to sacrifice her first child to Mahadeo, agreeably to an established custom; but on the birth of the child, a daughter, she neglected to fulfil her vow. The person now about to sacrifice herself was that daughter. When she grew up, she married, but had no children. Her husband died, and she married again. Her second husband also died, leaving her still childless. Such a succession of misfortunes drove her nearly mad; she would dance and sing all day, and eat anything from anybody; in consequence of which, she lost her caste, and became entirely neglected. She at length felt persuaded that her misfortunes arose from the circumstance of her mother having broken her vow, and she, therefore, determined to have it now fulfilled, by immolating herself without loss of time. She had seated herself at the foot of the rock, surrounded by those who had accompanied her from Hurdah, the place of her residence, calmly expecting the arrival of the Raj Goroo, or Chief Priest. She was perfectly sensible, and had neither ate nor drank any intoxicating or stupefying drug. Indeed, her appearance indicated perfect self-possession, and her friends positively asserted that nothing of the kind had been administered to her. There was a bottle of common bazaar spirits near her, which they said was to be given to her, if she asked for it, but not otherwise. She held in her right hand a cocoanut; and in the left, a knife and a small looking-glass, into which she continued to look, excepting when she turned her eyes towards heaven, exclaiming, 'Deo Bhurjee,' which she did very frequently. It was evident that her resolution entirely originated in her own breast.

When Ram Sing began to dissuade her, she became exceedingly angry, and told him that his interference was both useless and improper. He, however, continued his expostulations; in which, it is worthy of particular remark, he was heartily joined by her own people, who declared that they had previously used all their endeavours to induce her to relinquish her design of destroying herself. One of them, an old Brahmin, seconded Ram Sing so earnestly, that she threw the cocoanut at his head with such violence, as would have been productive of serious consequences, had her aim been sure; but fortunately it erred, and the nut was broken to pieces against the stones on which it fell. For three hours Ram Sing continued his expostulations, and she was still immovable. So reluctant was she to attend to him, that she repeatedly, and angrily, ordered the musicians, who were present, to commence playing, that his voice might not be heard. Lieutenant M'Naughten,

considering it a hopeless case, returned to camp, leaving Ram Sing to do all he could to delay the threatened sacrifice. In a few hours afterwards, his servants brought him intelligence that Ram Sing had succeeded, and was bringing the woman into camp. On ascending the fatal rock, from which she was to precipitate herself, she had fainted away from exhaustion, both of body and mind, and continued senseless for nearly two hours. On recovery, she cried bitterly, and appeared to hesitate. Every one present seized the favourable opportunity, and implored her to abandon her resolution; and, what was still more effectual, the Raj Goroo told her she had Mahadeo's forgiveness! Soon after her arrival in camp, she was sent off to Hurdah, provided by Colonel Adams with money to defray her expenses on the road, and a letter to the Soubadar of the province (who had in the first instance laudably endeavoured to dissuade her from her purpose), to see that she suffered no indignity or wrong, in consequence of having abandoned her resolution.

Matrimonial Auction.

The Babylonians had a law, which was also followed by the Heneti, an Illyrian people, and by Herodotus thought to be one of their best, which ordained, that when girls were of a marriageable age, they were to repair at a certain time to a place where the young men likewise assembled. They were then sold by the public crier, who first disposed of the most beautiful one. When he had sold her, he put up others to sale, according to their degrees of beauty. The rich Babylonians were emulous to carry off the finest women, who were sold to the highest bidders. But as the young men who were poor, could not aspire to have fine women, they were content to take the ugliest, with the money which was given with them; for when the crier had sold the handsomest, he ordered the ugliest of all the women to be brought, and inquired if anyone was willing to take her with a small sum of money. Thus she became the wife of him who was most easily satisfied; and thus the finest women were sold, and from the money which they brought, small fortunes were given to the ugliest, and to those who had any bodily deformity. A father could not marry his daughter as he pleased, nor was he who bought her allowed to take her home without giving security that he would marry her. But after the sale, if the parties were not agreeable to each other, the law enjoined that the purchase money should be restored. The inhabitants of any of their towns were permitted to buy wives at these auctions.

Marriage among the Franks.

By the laws of the Franks, a man was allowed but one wife, and he was rigorously punished who quitted her to marry another. The tie which connected them was indissol-

uble, and the wife was inseparable from her husband. She followed him to war; the camp was her country; and from the camp the armies drew their recruits. Boys, born and bred among the din of arms, inured to danger, and already soldiers, replaced the old and slain. They married in their turn, as we learn from Sidonius Apollinaris; who, in describing the rejoicings that were made in the camp of Clodion, on account of a wedding, that the fair young man, by whom he means a Frank, had married a fair young woman; and that the soldiers celebrated their nuptials with Scythian and warlike dances.

The husband provided for his family by his excursions, and by the booty which he shared in an enemy's country. On his return, the chaste caresses of his wife amply recompensed the warrior for the fatigues he had undergone, and for the danger to which he had been exposed. A dear and affectionate hand dressed the wounds which he had received in battle: and her obedience and sweetness of manners gave a charm to their society, which lasted as long as their lives. This union was founded on a perfect subordination. The Franks of those remote times were absolute masters in their houses. They could put their wives to death, when they departed from their duty; and it is surprising, that if a Frank killed his wife in a transport of anger, the laws punished him only by prohibiting him for some time to bear arms; a temporary interdiction of his military character.

Apology for Turkish Polygamy.

Lady C— was one day rallying the Turkish ambassador concerning its being permitted in the Alcoran to each Mussulman to have many wives. "Tis true, madam," replied the Turk, 'and it permits it, that the husband may in several, find the various accomplishments which many English women like your ladyship singly possess.'

Repartee.

The late Lord E— addressing himself to a young lady, accused the arch *bowman* Cupid of indolence and inattention, in not having aimed an arrow at her target. The lady replied, 'that the little urchin had better let his shafts remain in his quiver than venture on so unequal a combat, since she had "two strings to her bow."' His lordship departing from his usual politeness, to give a specimen of his talents at repartee, replied, 'Really, madam, I believe you shoot with a long bow.' 'That may be, my lord,' replied the lady with a frown; 'but I do not use poisoned arrows.'

Eloquence of the Heart.

Oliver Cromwell was one day engaged in a warm argument with a lady, upon the subject of oratory, in which she maintained that

eloquence could only be acquired by those who made it their study in early youth, and their practice afterwards. The Lord Protector, on the contrary, maintained that there was no eloquence but that which sprung from the heart : since, when that was deeply interested in the attainment of any object, it never failed to supply a fluency and richness of expression, which would in the comparison render rapid the studied speeches of the most celebrated orators. This argument ended, as most arguments do, in the lady's tenaciously adhering to her side of the question, and in the Protector's saying he had no doubt he should one day make her a convert to his opinion.

Some days after, the lady was thrown into a state bordering on distraction, by the unexpected arrest and imprisonment of her husband, who was conducted to the Tower as a traitor to the government.

The agonized wife flew to the Lord Protector, rushed through his guards, threw herself at his feet, and, with the most pathetic eloquence, pleaded for the life and innocence of her husband.

Cromwell maintained a severe brow, till the petitioner, overpowered by the excess of her feelings, and the energy with which she had expressed them, paused. His stern countenance then relaxed into a smile, and extending to her an immediate liberation of her husband, he said, 'I think all who have witnessed this scene, will vote on my side of the question, in the dispute between us the other day, that the eloquence of the heart alone has power to save.'

Maternal Anguish.

An Indian woman and her child, who was about seven years old, were travelling along the beach of Lake Erie, to a camp a few miles distant. The boy observed some wild grapes growing upon the top of the bank, and expressed such a strong desire to obtain them, that his mother, seeing a ravine at a little distance, by which she thought she could gain the edge of the precipice, resolved to gratify him. Having desired him to remain where he was, she ascended the steep, and was allured much farther into the woods than she at first intended. In the meantime, the wind began to blow vehemently, but the boy wandered carelessly along the beach, seeking for shells, till the rapid rise of the lake rendered it impossible for him to return to the spot where he had been left by his mother. He immediately began to cry aloud, and she, being on her return, heard him ; but instead of descending the ravine, hastened to the edge of the precipice, from the bottom of which the noise seemed to proceed. On looking down, she beheld her son struggling with the waves, and vainly endeavouring to climb up the bank, which was fifty feet perpendicular height, and very slippery. There being no possibility of rendering him assistance, she was on the point of throwing herself down the

steep, when she saw him catch hold of a tree that had fallen into the lake, and mount one of its most projecting branches. He sat astride upon this, almost beyond the reach of the surges, while she continued watching him in an agony of grief, hesitating whether she should endeavour to find her way to the camp, and procure assistance, or remain near her boy. However, evening was now about to close, and as she could not proceed through the woods in the dark, she resolved at least to wait till the moon rose. She sat on the top of the precipice a whole hour, and during that time, occasionally ascertained that her son was alive, by hearing his cries amidst the roaring of the waves ; but when the moon appeared he was not to be seen. She now felt convinced that he was drowned, and giving way to utter despair, threw herself on the turf. Soon after she heard a feeble voice cry, in the Indian language, 'Mamma, I'm here, come and help me.' The distracted mother started up, and saw her boy scrambling up on the edge of the bank ; she sprang forward to catch his hand, but the ground by which he held giving way, he was precipitated into the lake, and perished among the rushing billows.

Bridal Tragedy.

At an Indian wedding, at the Philippine Islands, the bride retired from the company, in order to go down to the river to wash her feet. As she was thus employed, an alligator seized her. Her shrieks brought the people to the place, who saw her between the monster's teeth, and just drawn under the water. The bridegroom instantly plunged after, and, with his dagger in his hand, pursued the monster. After a desperate conflict, he made him deliver up his prey, and swam to the shore, with the body of his dead wife in his arms!

Honest Poverty.

In the year 1776, a poor widow at Lisbon went several times to the antechamber of the court, and though frequently ordered to retire, she as constantly returned the next day, saying she must speak to the king. At length she one day saw his majesty passing by, when she immediately advanced towards him, presented a casket to him, and spoke as follows : 'Sire, behold what I have discovered among the rubbish of some of the ruined edifices by the great earthquake in 1755. I am a poor widow, and have six children. That casket would relieve me from my present distresses ; but I prefer my honour, with a good conscience, to all the treasures in the world. I deliver this to your majesty, as the most proper person to restore it to its lawful possessor, and to recompense me for the discovery.' The king immediately ordered the casket to be opened, and was struck with the beauty of the jewels which it contained ; after which,

speaking highly in praise of the widow's honesty and disinterestedness, he assured her of his protection, and ordered twenty thousand piastres to be immediately given to her. His majesty further ordered that proper search should be made to discover the real proprietor; and if their researches should prove fruitless, that the jewels should be sold, and the produce appropriated to the use of the widow and her children.

A Spartan Mother.

When Agis, the King of Sparta, had been put to death, Amphares, who had treacherously betrayed him, leaving the prison after the execution, met Agesistrata, the mother of Agis. On the afflicted woman throwing herself at his feet, he assured her she need not fear any further violence would be offered to her son; and said, if she wished, she might go in and see him. Agesistrata begged that her mother, Archidamia, then very old, might also be admitted; to which Amphares consented; but no sooner had they entered the prison than Archidamia was taken to the room where Agis had suffered, and she also put to death. Agesistrata was then admitted; and when she beheld her son's body stretched on the ground, and her mother suspended by the neck in the same room, she stood appalled at the horrid spectacle; but recovering, she assisted the soldiers to take down the body, and then covering it decently, laid it by that of her son. She embraced him, and kissed his cheeks, exclaiming, 'Oh, my son! it is thy too great mercy and goodness which has brought thee and us to this untimely end.' Amphares, who stood watching behind the door, rushed in hastily, and with a furious tone and countenance said, 'Since you approve so well of your son's actions, it is fit you should partake in his reward.' She then rising up, offered herself to the fate to which her merciless persecutors had doomed her, only exclaiming, 'I pray the gods that all this may redound to the good of Sparta!' After this, she submitted to death with a composure and firmness that drew tears from the executioners.

Heroine of Norway.

In the war which Regner Lodbrog, the King of Norway, waged against Fro, King of Sweden, Lagertha, a young Norwegian female, displayed uncommon personal courage, and by her valour contributed essentially to the overthrow of the Swedish monarch. Regner saw her, loved her, and made her his wife; but he soon deserted her, and married another. In the meantime, his subjects having rebelled, Regner was reduced to a most embarrassing dilemma. Lagertha, who had lived in retirement since the neglect of her husband, was no sooner informed of his situation, than she forgot all her own injuries, and hastening to his relief, was the principal means of enabling him to obtain a victory.

Galatian Widow.

Simorix being enamoured of Camma, a lady of Galatia, assassinated her husband, Sinatus, and then sought her hand. Camma, after having long resisted the presents and entreaties of Simorix, being at last apprehensive that he would have recourse to violence, pretended to give her consent to espouse him. She engaged him to meet her in the Temple of Diana, of which she was the priestess, in order to give solemnity to their union. It was the custom that the bride and bridegroom should drink out of the same cup. Camma first took the vase, in which she had infused a mortal poison, and after drinking freely, presented it to Simorix, who not having the slightest suspicion, drank off the remainder. Camma, transported with joy, instantly exclaimed, 'I die happy, since my honour is preserved, and the murder of my husband is avenged!' They both expired soon after.

Loves of Elizabeth and Eric.

Eric, King of Sweden, had a strong desire for an alliance with Queen Elizabeth; his hopes of final success in his addresses were kept up, in spite of the repeated refusals of the queen, by some Englishmen at his court, who persuaded him that her majesty secretly favoured his suit. This encouraged him to send the queen a royal present, and to declare his intention of following it in person. The present consisted of eighteen large piebald horses, and two shiploads of precious articles, which are not particularized. It does not appear that this offering was ill received; but as Elizabeth was determined not to relent in favour of the sender, she caused him to be apprised of the impositions passed upon him by the English, to whom he had given ear; at the same time expressing her anxious hope that he would spare himself the fatigues of a fruitless voyage. Fearing, however, that he might be already on his way, she occupied herself in preparations for receiving him with all the hospitality and splendour due to his errand, his rank, and her own honour. It was, at the same time, a business of some perplexity, so to regulate all these matters of ceremony, that neither Eric himself, nor others, might conclude that he was a favoured suitor. Among the state papers of the times, we find, first, a letter of council to the Lord Mayor, setting forth that, 'Whereas certain bookbinders and stationers did utter certain papers, wherein were printed the face of her majesty and the King of Sweden, although her majesty was not miscontented that either her own face, or that of the king, should be portrayed; yet, to be joined in the same paper with him, or any other prince who was known to have made request for marriage to her, was what she could not allow. Accordingly it was her pleasure that the Lord Mayor should seize all such papers, and pack them up, so that none of them should get

abroad. Otherwise she might seem to authorize the joining of herself in marriage to him, which might seem to touch her in honour.'

Elizabeth also wrote a letter to the Duke of Norfolk, directing the manner in which he should go to meet the king, if he landed in any part of Norfolk or Suffolk; and the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Steward, and the Lord Chamberlain, gave a written judgment on the ceremonial to be observed towards the king on his arrival, by the queen herself. One paragraph is conceived with all the prudery and the deep policy about trifles which marked the character of Elizabeth herself. 'By cause the queen's majesty is a maid, in this case, would many things be omitted of honour and courtesy, which, otherwise, were mete to be shewed to him, as in like cases hath been of kings of this land to others; and therefore it shall be necessary that the gravest of her council do, as of their own judgment, excuse the lack thereof to the king; and yet, on their own parts, offer the supplement thereof with reverence.'

Singular Disinterestedness.

History furnishes many examples of mothers led away by the seductive attractions of honour, riches, and grandeur, to sacrifice the true happiness of their children, in the hope of securing the future fortune and rank of their posterity. Russia, however, furnishes one instance of a mother who opposed the elevation of her child to the highest dignity with the utmost anxiety. During the interregnum that succeeded the unfortunate reign of Chowski, in 1610, the Russian nobles agreed to give the crown to a near relation, on the maternal side, of the Czar Fedor Iwanovitch. They accordingly invited young Michael Romanof and his mother to Moscow, but they both refused to attend; the mother even went farther; she wrote to her brother Jeremetef to beg of him to oppose the elevation of his nephew to a throne, since his extreme youth rendered him incapable of undertaking so important a charge. The election, however, proceeded, and Michael Romanof was chosen emperor. When the deputies repaired to Kostroma to announce to the new sovereign the choice they had made of him, his mother begged a private interview with the plenipotentiaries before she introduced them to her son. They consented, and met her in the church, where, with tears, she renewed her entreaties, and begged of them to choose some person more able to govern the people than her son. She was informed that having decided, the nobles would not revoke their choice. 'Well, then,' said she, 'I must content myself with soliciting you to take my child under your guardianship; he is not been educated in the difficult art of governing mankind; but you have elected him—you insist on him for your monarch, and he does not fulfil your expectations, you will be answerable to God for the events

of which your choice may be the cause; but as for me, I have done my duty to my God, my country, and my child.'

Empress Catherine.

The Empress Catherine I. of Russia, who was raised from a very humble situation in life, to be the wife of Peter the Great, and to succeed him on the throne, was never forgetful of her former condition. When Wurmb, who had been tutor to the children of Gluck, the Lutheran minister of Marienburgh, at the time Catherine was a domestic in the family, presented himself before her, after her marriage with Peter had been publicly solemnized; she recollected him, and said, with great complaisance, 'What, thou good old man, art thou still alive? I will provide for thee;' and she accordingly settled a pension upon him. She was not less attentive to the family of her benefactor Gluck, who died a prisoner at Moscow; she pensioned his widow, made his son her page, portioned the two eldest daughters, and advanced the youngest to be one of her maids of honour.

But the most noble part of her character was her peculiar humanity and compassion for the unfortunate. Motraye has paid a handsome compliment to her for this excellence. He says, 'She had in some sort the government of all his (Peter's) passions, and even saved the lives of a great many persons; she inspired him with that humanity which, in the opinion of his subjects, nature seemed to have denied him. A word from her mouth in favour of a wretch just going to be sacrificed to his anger would disarm him; but if he was fully resolved to satisfy that passion, he would give orders for the execution when she was absent, for fear she should plead for the victim. In a word, to use the expression of the celebrated Munich, 'Elle étoit proprement la mediatrice entre le monarque et ses sujets.'

When Peter was surrounded by ten thousand Turks in his camp at Pruth, and in danger of perishing with his whole army, who were without provisions and without resources, he shut himself up in his tent, and issued the most rigorous prohibition against any person approaching it. Catherine, desirous of reanimating his courage, one day ventured into his tent, and with an air of gaiety and confidence, said, 'I have an infallible method of delivering us from the power of the Ottomans.' A less decisive and important announcement would not have obtained the ear of Peter, while his wife informed him that by sacrificing all her valuable jewels, and a considerable sum in ducats, she had gained the Grand Vizier to her interests; an armistice was proposed, to which the Turkish general, influenced by the Grand Vizier, agreed, and provisions were suffered to pass to the Russians. A few days afterwards an honourable peace was concluded, and thus the empire, the sovereign, and the army, were saved by the presence of mind of Catherine.

After the death of Peter, and Catherine's accession to the throne, she convoked an assembly of all the states of the empire, in order to obtain their consent to the publication of a new code. The deputies assembled, in their first address, styled the empress, 'Great, wise, and mother of the people.' Catherine refused all these titles, except the last, saying, 'There is no true greatness in this world, nor is any mortal really wise; I hope, however, that I shall always act as the mother of my people.'

Queen Philippa.

Philippa, the wife of Eric the Pomeranian, King of Denmark, though neglected by her husband, omitted no opportunity that could contribute to his credit or happiness. When the Vendian towns had fitted out a large expedition against Copenhagen, Eric adopted some trifling measures to frustrate their attack; but when danger presented itself, he quitted the city. Philippa remained behind, and having exhorted the citizens to make a determined resistance, she placed herself at their head, and repulsed the invaders.

Eric, who was a weak prince, issued a bad coinage, which excited great discontent among the Danes. The circumstance coming to the queen's knowledge, during the absence of her husband, she collected all the silver she possessed, and privately caused a better coinage to be struck, which appeased the clamours of the people.

Lady Grange.

A striking instance of the arbitrary state in which Scotland was held in former times, both in public and private affairs, is exhibited in the melancholy fate of the wife of a Lord of Session, whose title was Lord Grange. It was suspected that the lady, by some means or other, had got at the knowledge of some state papers of infinite consequence; and as poor women are set down in the minds of all arbitrary men, to be incapable of keeping a secret, Grange and his son were determined to secure the one contained in the papers in question, by putting it out of the lady's power to divulge anything she knew of the matter. To accomplish their design, the husband and son privately conveyed her to the island of St. Kilda, there put her on shore, and left her to shift for herself; and sailed back again, without a living being having missed them, or suspected what they had executed; nor could the lady's place of concealment be discovered by her friends, although they made every effort in their power to find out whither they had conveyed her, but to no purpose. The island of St. Kilda afforded no implements for writing, and the lady's history would never have been known, had she not worked it on her muslin apron with her hair. Her family, by some means or other, after her death (which happened at St. Kilda, near thirty

years after her banishment, got possession of this curious piece of work, and preserved it with great care, as a memorial of her sufferings, and of the tyranny of the times in which she lived.

Mrs. Phillips.

Major Puck, in his 'Essay on Study,' says, 'The best letters I have met with in our English tongue, are those of the celebrated Mrs. Phillips, to Sir Charles Cotterel. They are all addressed to the same person, so they run all in the same strain, and seem to have been employed in the service of a refined and generous friendship. In a word, they are such as a woman of spirit and virtue should write to a courtier of honour and true gallantry.' Mrs. Phillips is said, by Mr. Langbain, to have equalled the Lesbian Sappho in genius, and the Roman Sulpicia in virtue. To this he adds, 'As they were praised by Horace, Martial, Ausonius, and other eminent poets, so was this lady commended by the Earls of Orrery and Roscommon, by Cowley, and other eminent men.' An anonymous writer, in the second volume of the Duke of Wharton's works, thus speaks of Mrs. Phillips: 'I have been looking into the writings of Mrs. Phillips, and have been wonderfully pleased with her solid and masculine thoughts, in no feminine style. Her refined and rational ideas of friendship, a subject she delights in, show a soul above the common level of mankind, and raise my desire of practising what is thus nobly described. Though I know nothing of Mrs. Phillips, but what I have learned from her poems, I am persuaded she was not less discreet, good-humoured, modest, constant, and virtuous, than ingenious. Her "Country Life," is a sweet poem, sprinkled with profound philosophical thoughts, expressed in very poetical language.'

Mrs. Cockburn.

Catherine Cockburn was only twenty-two years of age when she published her defence of Locke's 'Essay on the Human Understanding,' in reply to some anonymous strictures to which it had given rise. Mrs. Cockburn concealed her name, lest the knowledge of her sex and youth should produce a prejudice against her work. She seems also to have felt an apprehension of being known to Mr. Locke, under the presumptuous title of his defender. In a preliminary address to him, she calls her defence 'a bold unlicensed undertaking,' and declares she had not ventured its publication 'without much apprehension and awe of his displeasure.' In a letter to a friend on this subject, she says, 'I am more afraid of appearing before him I defend, than of the public censure; and chiefly for the honour I bear to him, resolve to conceal myself.'

Her precautions were ineffectual; her name was discovered, when she received from M

Locke a present of books, and a letter of praise and thanks, in which he says, 'Give me leave to assure you, that as the rest of the world take notice of the strength and clearness of your reasoning, so I cannot but be extremely sensible that it was employed in my defence. You have herein not only vanquished my adversary, but reduced me also absolutely under your power: and left no desire more strong in me, than that of meeting with some opportunity to assure you with what respect and submission I am yours.'

Fortitude.

Lady Russell, the widow of the unfortunate Lord Russell, possessed such extraordinary fortitude and resignation, as enabled her to bear the most overwhelming afflictions. After the death of her son, the second duke of Bedford, she had scarcely recovered the composure which her unfeigned piety and submission to the will of heaven could alone produce, when her younger daughter, the Duchess of Rutland, died, after giving birth to her ninth child.

Her eldest daughter, the Duchess of Devonshire, was at that time confined, but Lady Russell had the resolution to conceal from her the death of her sister; and to prevent her from hearing it suddenly, avoided the too particular enquiries of the Duchess of Devonshire, by saying, that she had that day 'seen her sister out of bed;' when, in fact, she had seen her in her coffin.

Family going to the Scaffold.

Madame de Bois Berenger, who was confined in the prison of the Luxembourg in 1793, with her father, mother, and a younger sister, did everything in her power to ameliorate their condition, and even deprived herself of a portion of her own sustenance, to contribute to their comfort. When the decree of accusation against her family was promulgated, not finding herself included in it, her affliction was excessive; but upon her own denunciation arriving, an excess of joy succeeded the accessions of grief. Upon the day appointed for their execution, she cut off her hair, and dressed herself as if going to a fête. In her way thither, Madame de Bois Berenger supported her mother; and with angelic sweetness said, 'Be composed, my dearest parent, and let an emotion of regret accompany you to the tomb. You have all your family with you: to you they look up for consolation; and your virtues are about to receive the recompense they merit, in the mansions of peace and peace.'

Ladies of Germany to the Ladies of England.

The miseries of war which afflicted Europe severely in the years 1813 and 1814, fell with increased force on the kingdom of

Saxony, which became the arena of the contest, and was the scene of some of the most important battles recorded in history. Thousands of widows and orphans had to lament the loss of husbands and parents in the dreadful conflict, and, their property destroyed by remorseless war, were left entirely destitute; but charity, the darling attribute of woman, stretched its hand to their relief; and Committees of Ladies were formed, both in England and Germany, for the sufferers on the Continent. In England, the list boasted of all who are most distinguished for their rank, wealth, and virtue; and in Germany the female philanthropists were not less respectable. The following address from the ladies of Germany, to the ladies of England, exhibits a fine instance of extensive female benevolence.

'TO THE LADIES OF ENGLAND FROM THE LADIES OF GERMANY.'

'Dresden, June 30, 1814.'

'WITH emotions of joy and gratitude, we have learned from the public prints the formation of committees of benevolent British females, whose efforts are devoted to the alleviation of the distresses of the Continent, and who in particular deeply sympathize in the forlorn state of the unfortunate orphans of Saxony, which has had to sustain so severe a trial. Here, too, was formed a similar society, which is exclusively engaged in providing for these destitute little ones. Judge, then, what must have been our feelings, when we heard that our sisters in England were making our most important concern their own. With deep emotion we join them in the good work; and approach them with the confidence which the Christian sentiment of charity and benevolence so easily inspires. Let us, then, frankly acquaint you with our distresses, as well as with what has been done to relieve them; and what we venture to solicit of our generous British sisters. We need not repeat how grievously our country (in which the emancipation of Europe was achieved) has suffered from the war and its formidable train: want and famine, disease and misery, devastation and death! All this the public papers have announced; and we know that you cannot be strangers to the subject in general. We wish, however, that we could describe to you the individual distress which surrounds us, the deplorable state of the children who have lost father and mother, and everything along with them; and yet we durst not give you a faithful picture of it, as it would wound your hearts too deeply. It is most painful to hear in what a state these children, particularly those of very tender age, have been found by those excellent men who feel themselves called by God to seek out misery in its most secret retreats. They were, therefore, the first to endeavour to alleviate their condition, and to invite all philanthropic Christians, both at home and abroad, to take compassion, agreeably to our Saviour's injunction, on these little ones. They addressed themselves in

particular to our sex, to whose care the children were especially committed. And God gave power to their voice : so that from all quarters came offers to take orphans, and contributions for their support. The committee in London for relieving the distresses occasioned by the war in Germany, has in particular exerted itself in our behalf, and gives us hopes that it will do still more. But in Saxony also, an excellent spirit was displayed ; and those to whom Providence had preserved part of their property, cheerfully extended their aid to such as were left quite destitute. In this manner about two hundred children have already been placed in families ; and four small institutions, corresponding with our abilities at the time, have been erected, into which the orphans are received, till new parents can be found for them. One of these is at Dippoldiswalda, for boys ; the second at Grunberg, for girls : and the other two at Pirna and Dresden, for children of both sexes. So long as we can meet with families willing to receive our little ones into the midst of them, we have nothing more to wish on their account. But naturally this number must decrease more and more ; and for this reason, because the managers of these institutions are unwilling to place any of the children out of their depopulated native country, and their yet remaining resources will be speedily exhausted. We are, therefore, desirous of giving permanence to these institutions (at least to one of them), that the orphans who cannot be otherwise provided for may be there received, educated, and supported, till they shall be able to earn their own living. To you, then, beloved sisters, we turn, and entreat you to devote to this object the bounty which you may have destined for our poor infants. We will gladly transmit to you an account of its application, and punctually follow every direction that you may give respecting it. Encouraged by your co-operation, we shall exert ourselves the more cheerfully ; and God, who blesses whatever is done for his sake, will not fail to prosper the sisterly covenant in which we are united. (SIGNED)

FRIEDERICKA, Countess of Dohna, (born of Stolberg) Directress of the Orphan-House at Grunberg.

AUGUSTA VON THUMMEL, (born Baroness of Werthern) Directress of the Orphan-House at Pirna.

LOUISA VON SCHONBERG, (born Countess of Stolberg) Directress of the Orphan-House at Dresden.

JOHANNA AUGUSTA ULTMANN, (born Lessing) Directress of the Orphan-House at Dippoldiswalda.

Laura.

On Sunday in the Holy week, at the time of Matins, Petrarch beheld at the church of the monastery of St. Clair, in Avignon, a young lady whose charms absorbed and captivated his attention. She was dressed in green, and her robe was embroidered with

violets. Her face, her air, her gait, seemed somewhat more than mortal. Her person was delicate, her eyes tender and sparkling, and her eyebrows black as ebony. Golden locks waved over her shoulders, which were whiter than snow ; her ringlets were interwoven with the fingers of love. Her neck was finely formed, and her complexion, which art would vainly attempt to imitate, animated by the tints of nature. When she opened her mouth, you perceived the beauty of pearls and the sweets of roses. She was full of graces. Nothing was so soft as her looks, so modest as her carriage, so touching as the sound of her voice. An air of gaiety and tenderness breathed around her, but so pure and happily tempered, as to inspire every beholder with the sentiments of virtue, for she was chaste as the spangled dew-drop of the morn. Such was the amiable Laura !

This lady, to whom the genius of Petrarch has given immortal celebrity, appears to have been the daughter of Andibert de Noves, a chevalier. Her family held the first rank at Noves, a town of Provence, two leagues from Avignon. Laura possessed a house in that city, where she passed a part of the year. Her father had left her a handsome dowry, to be given to her on her marriage, which took place when she was very young (through the authority and influence of her mother, with Hugues de Sade, whose family was originally of Avignon, where they held the first offices. It was not till after marriage that Petrarch beheld her ; and hence the severity with which she regarded his passion. While Petrarch concealed in his bosom the love with which Laura had inspired him, he owns that she treated him with kindness ; but when she discovered the state of his mind, she behaved to him, he avers, with great severity. Awed by the chastity of her conduct and manners, Petrarch had not dared to speak of his feelings ; but Laura, on perceiving that he followed her everywhere, and directed towards her his ardent glances, solicitously avoided him ; and if by accident he approached her in public, immediately left the place, or covered herself with her veil. His attentions became at length so embarrassing, that she felt constrained to forbid him ever to see or to speak to her. Petrarch, convinced that distance alone could enable him to obey so cruel an injunction, determined to take a long journey ; but scarcely had he quitted Avignon before he repented of his purpose, and could with difficulty prevent himself from returning. During his excursions the image of Laura was ever present to his thoughts. He had to pass, on his return, through a part of the forest of Ardennes, which was rendered more particularly dangerous by the inroads from a war between the Duke of Brabant and the Count of Flanders, who disputed with each other the sovereignty of Moulins. Petrarch, however, took no guard ; alone and unarmed, wholly occupied by his passion, he traversed, unconcerned, the most gloomy recesses of the forest. ' Love,' said he, ' enlightened the shades

Ardennes, where Laura appeared in every object, and was heard in every breeze.' On approaching Lyons, he beheld the Rhone with transport, for in its course to the sea it bathed the walls of Avignon, which contained his Laura. He had flattered himself that absence might have softened the obduracy of Laura, and that she would behold him on his return with greater complacency. Of the disappointment of this hope he bitterly complains, and compares his mistress to the snow on which the sun had not beamed. 'It is now,' says he, 'seven years that I have sighed night and day for Laura, without hope of being able to touch her heart.'

It is the natural effect of a romantic and tender passion, to render common society distasteful to its victim. Petrarch quitted Avignon in despair, and immured himself in the shades and caverns of Vaucluse. 'The more desert and savage the scene around me, the more lively,' says he, 'is the form in which Laura presents herself to my view. The mountains, the woods, and the streams, see and witness my anguish.' The sentiment which preyed on his heart undermined his health, and sapped the springs of life; the idea of death and a future state presented itself to his imagination, ever lively and enthusiastic, and opposed itself to the fervours of love. He now lamented the time which he had wasted in this pursuit, and determined to conquer a passion which indulgence, habit, and association had too firmly interwoven with the whole texture of his mind. To assist him in his resolution he had recourse to a monk, Dennis de Robertis, a native of Italy, a man distinguished for his talents, and to whom Petrarch was greatly attached. Father Dennis said all that wisdom could dictate, or that ingenuity could devise to heal the wounded mind of his penitent; but the eloquence of the good father was, by one glance from Laura, obliterated from the mind of his pupil. One day having met him by accident, she looked on him with greater kindness. A favour so unexpected restored him happiness, and vanquished in a moment his wasted resolution. He now again sought her in public, when she behaved to him with more ease. He wished to speak to her of his sentiments; but the dignity of her manner pressed and awed him. Laura desired to be beloved by Petrarch, but with a refinement that should prevent him from any excess of his feelings. If ever he attempted to violate this respectful silence, she treated him with the utmost severity; but when she saw him afflicted, in despair, and too much discouraged, some trifling complacency, a word, a gesture, were sufficient to reanimate him. It was by this refined species of jealousy, if so harsh a term may be allowed, that Laura, without stain to her honour, kept alive for twenty years the passion of a man of petulant character, whose morals, previous to his acquaintance with her, had not been reproachable.

On the 6th of April, 1348, Petrarch was at Avona, when, in a dream, towards the morn-

ing, he seemed to behold Laura, and held with her a long conversation. 'Her appearance,' says he, 'was like the spring, and her head was crowned with oriental pearls. As she drew near to me she sighed, and gave me a hand which had long been the object of my tenderest wishes. "Do you recollect," she asked, "her who, by engaging the affections of your youth, led you from the common road of life?" While she spoke these words, which were accompanied with an air of modesty and earnestness, she sat down under a laurel and a beech, by the side of a brook, and commanded me to place myself by her. Having informed her lover that she was no longer an inhabitant of this world, and reproved his grief, "To the spotless soul," continued she, "death is the deliverance from a darksome prison; it is no more than a sigh or a short passage from one life to another. In the flower of my youth, when you loved me most, and when life was decked out in all its charms, then was it bitter compared with the sweetness of my death. I felt at this moment more joy than an exile returning to his wished-for country. There was but one idea afflicted me—I was to leave you. I was moved with compassion." "Ah!" replied I, "in the name of that truth by which you were governed while on earth, and which you now more clearly distinguish in the bosom of Him to whom all things are present, tell me, I conjure you, whether love gave birth to this compassion?" Scarcely had I ceased to speak, when I beheld those heavenly smiles which have been at all times the messengers of peace. "You have ever," said she, with a sigh, "possessed my heart, and shall continue to possess it." I had only time to add, "My sufferings are fully recompensed; but I cannot live without you; I would, therefore, know whether I shall soon follow you?" She was already in motion to depart, when she said, "If I mistake not, you shall remain a long time upon earth."

The inquietude of Petrarch after this vision was extreme. He waited with impatience for news from Avignon; but a pestilence which prevailed within its walls had put a stop to all communications. On the 9th of May, 1348, he at length received, while at Parma, a letter from a friend who resided in the same city with Laura, and who informed him that she died of the plague on the 6th of April, the very day on which the vision had appeared to him. She expired gently, and without a struggle. After death she appeared as one who slumbers; death had not discomposed the serenity of her features. 'Her road to heaven,' says Petrarch, 'was not to seek in death; she had long known and walked in its paths.'

His grief for her loss, susceptible minds may conceive. 'I dare not think of my condition,' says he; 'much less can I speak of it. It convinces me that there is no longer anything worthy of living for. Since the strongest cord of my life is broken, with the grace of God, I shall easily renounce a world where my cares have been deceitful, and my hopes vain and perishing.'

The Fair Geraldine.

Many damsels of antiquity have been by various writers supposed to be the fair idol of the accomplished but ill-fated Earl of Surrey, whom he thus celebrates under the name of Geraldine :

'From Tuscany came my lady's worthy race,
Fair Florence was sometyne their aunçient
seate ;

The western yle, whose pleasant shore doth
face

Wild Camber's cliffs, did geve her lyvely
heate.

Fostered she was with milke of Irish brest ;
Her sire an earl : her dame of prince's blood :
From tender yeres in Britaine she doth rest
With kinge's childe, where she tasteth costly
food.

Honsdon did first present her to myne yien ;
Bright in her hewe, and Geraldine she hight ;
Hampton me taught to wish her first for
mine,

And Windsor, alas ! doth chase me from her
sight.

Her beauty of kinde, her virtue from above ;
Happy is he that can obtain her love !

Anthony Wood, giving a large interpretation to the expression, that 'Florence was sometyne their aunçient seate,' states that Geraldine was born at Florence. He adds that Surrey, travelling to the emperor's court, grew acquainted with Cornelius Agrippa, famous for natural magic, who showed him the image of his Geraldine in a glass, sick, weeping on her bed, and resolved all into devout religion for the absence of her lord ; that from thence he went to Florence, her native city, where he published an universal challenge in honour of her beauty, and was victorious in the tournament on that occasion. The challenge and tournament are true ; for the shield presented to the earl by the great duke for the purpose is represented in Vertue's print of the Arundel family. But the place of her birth is altogether gratuitously assumed. The Earl of Orford, who has applied himself with more success than any other writer to the solution of this lady's history, makes out pretty clearly that she was the Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald, daughter of Gerald Fitzgerald, ninth Earl of Kildare, in the reign of Henry VIII. 'Henry, Earl of Surrey,' says his lordship, 'who had at least as much taste for women as letters, and was fond of splendour and feats of arms, contributed to give a romantic turn to composition ; and Petrarch, the poet of the fair, was naturally a pattern to a court of the complexion of that of Henry VIII. In imitation of Laura, our earl had his Geraldine. Who she was we are not told directly ; himself mentions several particulars relating to her, but not her name. I think I have very nearly discovered who this fair person was.

'I am inclined (continues Lord Orford) to think that her poetical appellation was her real name, as every one of the circumstances tally. Gerald Fitzgerald, ninth Earl of Kildare, in the time of Henry VIII., married to

his second wife, the Lady Margaret Gray, daughter of Thomas Gray, Marquess of Dorset, by whom he had three daughters ; Lady Margaret, who was born deaf and dumb (probably not the fair Geraldine) ; Lady Elizabeth, third wife of Edward Clinton, Earl of Lincoln ; and the Lady Cicely. Our genealogists say, that the house of Fitzgerald derives its origin from Otho, descended from the dukes of Tuscany, who, in the reign of King Alfred, settled in England, and from thence to Ireland : thus

"From Tuscan came his lady's noble race."

'Her sire, an earl, and her being fostered with milk of Irish breast, follow of course. Her dame being of prince's blood is as exact : Thomas, Marquess of Dorset, being son of Queen Elizabeth Gray, daughter of the Duchess of Bedford, of the princely house of Luxembourg. The only question is, whether the Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald, or her sister, Lady Cicely, was the fair Geraldine ; I should think the former, as it is evident she was settled in England ; the circumstance of his first seeing her at Hunsdon, indifferent as it seems, leads to a confirmation of this conjecture. Sir Henry Chauncey says that Hunsdon House, in Hertfordshire, was built by Henry VIII., and destined to the education of his children. The Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald was second cousin to the Princesses Mary and Elizabeth, and it was very natural for her to be educated with them, as the sonnet expressly says the fair Geraldine was. The Earl of Surrey was in like manner brought up with the Duke of Richmond at Windsor ; here the two circumstances clearly correspond to the earl's account of his first seeing his mistress at Hunsdon, and being deprived of her by Windsor ; when he attended the young duke to visit the princesses, he got sight of their companion ; when he followed him to Windsor, he lost that opportunity. If this assumption wanted any corroborating incidents, here is a stronger one : the Lord Leonard Gray, uncle to the Fitzgeralds, was deputy of Ireland for the Duke of Richmond, and that connexion alone would easily account for the earl's acquaintance with a young lady, bred up with the royal family.'

Mrs. Anne Askew.

The death of Mrs. Anne Askew, one of the victims to the cruelty of Henry VIII., had this aggravation, that it was excited by her own husband, who, after driving her from his house, betrayed her to her persecutors. Upon his information, she was seized and examined for her attachment to the principles of the Reformation ; her answers were modest and dignified, yet completely unreserved ; and the result was, that she was recommitted to Newgate, and thence sent to the Tower.

An interesting record is still preserved of the inhuman cruelties which were inflicted on this admirable young woman in the secret of the prison-house, where no eye pitied her, and where no friendly hand composed her aching limbs. 'I saw her,' said Mr. Loud, 'and

must needs confess of Mrs. Askew, that the day afore her execution, and the same day also, she had an angel's countenance, and a smiling face, though, when the hour of darkness came, she was so racked that she could not stand, but was holden up by two sergeants.'

In a letter to a friend, entitled, 'The effect of my examination and handling since my departure from Newgate,' she gives a lamentable picture of human cruelty and human endurance. It was strongly suspected that Mrs. Askew was favoured by some ladies of high rank, and that she carried on a seditious correspondence with the queen. The Chancellor Wrothesley, hoping that he might discover something that would afford matter of impeachment against that princess, the Earl of Hertford, or his countess, who all favoured the Reformation, ordered her to be put to the rack; but her fortitude in suffering, and her resolution not to betray her friends, were proof against that diabolical invention. Not a groan, nor a word, could be extorted from her. The chancellor, provoked with what he called her obstinacy, augmented her tortures with his own hands, and with unheard-of violence; but her courage and constancy were invincible; and these barbarians gained nothing by their cruelties but everlasting disgrace and infamy. As soon as she was taken from the rack, she fainted away; but, being recovered, she was condemned to the flames. Her bones were dislocated in such a manner that they were forced to carry her in a chair to the place of execution. While she was at the stake, letters were brought her from the lord chancellor, offering her the king's pardon if she would recant. But she refused to look at them, telling the messenger that 'she came not thither to deny her Lord and Master.' The same letters were also tendered to three other persons condemned to the same fate; but animated by her example, they also refused to accept them. The Lord Mayor immediately proclaimed with a loud voice, '*Fiat Justitia.*' The wood was kindled, the flames arose, and a mouldering heap of ashes was soon all that remained of Mrs. Askew and her fellow martyrs. The surrounding multitude were unmoved, but a few drops of rain descended, as if nature wept the obduracy of her children.

Thus perished one of the most heroic of Christian martyrs, in the 25th year of her age.

A 'Woman's Promise.'

Henry Carey, cousin to Queen Elizabeth, after having enjoyed her majesty's favour for several years, lost it in the following manner: as he was walking one day full of thought, in the garden of the palace, under the queen's window, she perceived him, and said to him in a jocular manner, 'What does a man think of when he is thinking of nothing?' 'Upon a woman's promise,' replied Carey. 'Well lone, cousin,' answered Elizabeth. She re-

tired, but did not forget Carey's answer. Some time after he solicited the honour of a peerage, and reminded the queen that she had *promised* it to him. 'True,' said she, 'but that was a *woman's* promise.'

Burning of Forty-Seven Widows.

In 1710, died the Prince of Marata, aged above eighty years. The ceremony of his funeral was one of the most revolting ever known in the annals of eastern superstition; no less than forty-seven of his wives were burned with his corpse. A deep circular pit was dug in a field without the town; in the middle of it was erected a pile of wood, on the left of which, on a couch richly ornamented, lay the body of the deceased prince in his finest robes. After numberless rites were performed by the Brahmins, the pile was set on fire, and immediately the unhappy ladies appeared, sparkling with jewels and adorned with flowers. These victims of this diabolical sacrifice, walked several times about the burning pile, the heat whereof was felt at a considerable distance. The principal lady then holding the dagger of her late husband, thus addressed herself to the prince, his successor: 'Here,' said she, 'is the dagger the king made use of to triumph over his enemies; beware, never to employ it to other purposes, never to embue it with the blood of your subjects; govern them as a father, as he has done, and you shall live long and happy as he did. Since he is no more, nothing can keep me longer in the world; all that remains for me is to follow him.' With these words she resigned the dagger into the prince's hands, who took it from her without showing the least sign of grief or compassion. The princess now appeared agitated. One of her domestics, a Christian woman, had frequently talked with her upon religion, and though she never renounced her idols, had made some impressions on her mind. Perhaps these now revived. With the most expressive look she exclaimed, 'Alas! what is the end of human happiness? I know that I shall plunge myself head-long into hell.' On these words, horror was visible upon every countenance, while resuming her courage, she boldly turned her face to the burning pile, and calling upon her gods, flung herself into the midst of the flames. The second lady was the sister of the prince of the blood, who was present, and assisted at the detestable sacrifice. She advanced to her brother, and gave him the jewels wherewith she was adorned. His feelings gave way; he burst into tears, and fell on her neck in the most tender embraces. She, however, remained unmoved, and with a resolute countenance, sometimes viewed the pile, and sometimes the assistant. Then loudly exclaiming, *Chiva! Chiva!* the name of one of her idols, she precipitated herself into the flames, as the former had done. The other ladies soon followed after, some decently composed, and some with the most bewildered, downcast, and sorrowful looks. One

of them, shocked above the rest, ran to a Christian soldier whom she beheld among the guards, and hanging about his neck, implored him to save her. The new convert, stunned with surprise, pushed the unfortunate lady from him, and shrieking loud, she fell into the fiery trench. The soldier, all shivering with terror, immediately retired, and a delirious fever ended his life in the following night. Though many of the unhappy victims discovered at first the utmost intrepidity, yet no sooner did they feel the flames, than they screamed out in the most dreadful manner, and weltering over each other, strove to gain the brim of the pit, but in vain: the assistants forced them back with their poles, and heaped new fuel upon them. The next day the Brahmins gathered the bones, and threw them into the sea. The pit was levelled, a temple erected upon the spot, and the deceased prince and his wives were reckoned among the deities.

From a passage in Diodorus Siculus, it appears, that this horrid custom of the Indian women burning themselves with the bodies of their husbands, was introduced with the view of making them the more concerned about preserving them alive. A wife had poisoned her husband and to prevent all others from doing the like, it was decreed, that when husbands died, their wives should die with them! This assertion is, however, directly at variance with the fact that the sacrifice must be voluntary.

Queen Eleanor Christina.

Eleanor Christina, the daughter of Christian IV. of Denmark, was in the seventh year of her age betrothed to Corfitz Ulfeld, a Danish nobleman; but a Saxon prince having claimed her in marriage, when she attained her twelfth year, the alliance was considered more suitable to her dignity, and attempts were made to induce her to accept the offer. But as her marriage promise had been given, though not by herself, yet by others on her behalf, she deemed it too sacred an engagement to be broken. She therefore continued true to her word, and married him at the age of fifteen.

On the death of the king, the over-bearing spirit of Ulfeld began to manifest itself; and his enemies either secretly or openly availing themselves of his weakness, contrived to effect his destruction. One misfortune succeeded to another; he was exiled, recalled and imprisoned, and then again banished. Thus he was pursued from one place to another, until he died in the greatest misery.

Eleanor, though the daughter of a king, and brought up in the greatest luxury, determined to share misfortune with her husband. She followed him everywhere, in exile and in prison, and endured every sacrifice and privation, in order to solace him. Happening once to be in great danger when travelling in disguise, she attired herself in a male habit,

that she might guard him, and procure him every accommodation.

At another time Ulfeld, during his residence in Sweden, became suspected of carrying on a secret correspondence; in consequence of which, the king appointed a commission to investigate the business. His wife appeared before the commissioners, excused her husband's absence on account of illness, and pleaded his cause with such energy and zeal, that the commissioners brought in a verdict of acquittal, which was approved by the king.

Eleanor suffered severely for her conjugal affection, even after the death of her husband, by being imprisoned for the dreadful period of forty-three years. She was liberated by Christian the Fifth, who presented her with Maribo Castle as a fief, and granted her a pension of 1500 rix dollars per annum.

Fallen Greatness.

When the affairs of James the Second became so critical, as to render it necessary to provide for the safety of his family, it was with the utmost difficulty that his wife could be prevailed upon to quit the country, and leave her husband; she was at length prevailed upon, and on the 6th of December, 1688, in the evening, her majesty, with the nurse, carrying the prince, then only five months old, in her arms, and accompanied by the Count Lauzune, so famous for his own misfortunes, and by a few attendants, went privately from Whitehall. She crossed the Thames in an open boat in a dark night, in a heavy rain, in a high wind, when the river was much swollen, and at the coldest period of the year. A common coach had been ordered to wait for her upon the opposite side; but by some accident it had been delayed for an hour. During this time the queen took shelter under the walls of an old church at Lambeth; turning her eyes, streaming with tears, sometimes on the prince, who unconscious of the miseries which attend upon royalty, excited, on that account, the greatest compassion in her breast, and sometimes to the innumerable lights of the city, amidst the glimmering of which she in vain explored the palace in which her husband was left, and started at every sound she heard. Happily, however, she escaped all danger, and reached Calais in safety.

Caprice.

The celebrated Gabrieli, who was so long the admiration of all Italy, was not more remarkable for her great vocal powers, than for the caprice of temper by which they may be said to have been enthralled. When she was in good humour, and chose to exert herself, there was nothing in the whole compass of music that she could not perform. She is said to have sung to the heart, as well as to the imagination; to have touched every

Lord, and to have moved every passion of the human breast. Such, however, was the unfortunate capriciousness of her temper, that it but rarely permitted her to exert her powers to full advantage. Neither interest, nor flattery, nor threats, nor punishments, had the least power over her conduct. To know that she was particularly desired to sing, was always with her an invincible reason against it.

The Viceroy of Sicily, who was fond of music, one time gave a grand dinner to the principal nobility of Palermo, and sent an invitation to Gabrieli to be of the party. Every other person was there exactly at the appointed time. The Viceroy ordered the dinner to be kept back for some time, and sent an express to let her know that the company waited her arrival. The messenger found her reading in bed. She said she was sorry she had kept the company waiting, but she had really forgotten the appointment! Nor was this all. When she came, she sung all her airs with obvious indifference and sullen neglect. The Viceroy was highly offended; but being of a gentle temper, he did not choose to exert his authority. But still persevering in her sullen and stubborn manner, he was constrained to threaten her with punishment, if she any longer refused to sing.

Upon this, she grew more obstinate, declaring that force and authority would have no effect with her; that he might make her cry, but he never would make her sing. She was then sent to prison, where she remained twelve days; during which time she gave magnificent dinners every day, paid the debts of all the poor prisoners, and distributed large sums in charity.

It is related, that several times the managers of the London Opera were in terms with her to visit England, but she would never agree; and the reason she assigned was, that as she could not command her caprice, which for the most part commanded her, she could have no liberty to indulge it in England. 'For,' added she, 'were I to take it into my head not to sing, I am told the people there would certainly mob me, and perhaps break my bones. Now I like to sleep in a sound skin, although it should be in a prison.' She alleged, also, that it was not always caprice or ill humour that prevented her from singing, but that it often depended upon physical causes.

Lady Jane Grey.

Roger Ascham one day paying a visit to the amiable but unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, found her employed in reading Plato, while the rest of the family were engaged in a hunting party in the park. On his remarking on the singularity of her choice, she said with a smile, 'I wist all their sport is but a shadow to the pleasure I find in Plato. Alas! good folk, they never knew what true pleasure meant.'

Unhappily persuaded to accept the crown

of England, settled on her by a deed of Edward the Sixth, which she retained but for a few days, she, with her husband, Lord Guildford, became the victims of the unrelenting Mary. On the day of her execution, her husband desired permission to see her; but she refused her consent, informing him by a message, that the tenderness of their parting would overcome the fortitude of both, and would too much unbind their minds from that constancy which their approaching end required of them. 'Their separation,' she said, 'would be only for a few moments, and they would soon regain each other in a scene where their affections would be for ever united, and where death, disappointment, and misfortunes could no longer have access to them, or disturb their felicity.' The queen had given directions for executing Lady Jane and her husband together on Tower Hill; but the council dreading that the compassion of the people might be excited by their youth, beauty, and innocence, gave directions that Lady Jane should be beheaded within the verge of the Tower. She saw her husband led to execution; and having given him some tokens of remembrance from the window, she waited with tranquillity for her own appointed hour. She even saw the headless body wrapped in a linen cloth, as it was brought back to the Tower; and expressed herself more confirmed by the reports which she heard of his constancy, than shaken by so melancholy a spectacle. Even at the scaffold, her fortitude did not forsake her, and she addressed the weeping multitude with the most astonishing composure. Her last words on the scaffold, when stretching her neck to receive the fatal stroke, were, 'Lord, into thine hands I commend my spirit.'

Thus perished an innocent and accomplished female of eighteen years of age, who, for simplicity of manners, purity of heart, and extensive learning, was scarcely ever equalled in any age or country. As Fuller justly observes, she united 'the innocence of childhood, the beauty of youth, the solidity of middle life, and the gravity of old age. She had the birth of a princess, the learning of a divine, and the life of a saint, and yet suffered the death of a malefactor for the offences of her parents.'

In the apartment in which she was confined in the Tower, the following Latin lines were found inscribed by her on the wall with a pin or some other sharp instrument:—

'Non aliena putes, homini quæ obtingere possunt:

Sors hodierna mihi, cras erit illa tibi.

JANE DUDLEY.

Deo juvante, nil nocet livor malus;

Et non juvante, nil juvat labor gravis

Post tenebras spero lucem.'

Fatal Obstinacy.

On the side of the Humber opposite to Kingston, lived a lady whose virtue and good sense recommended her to the esteem of

Mr. Marvell, the father of the celebrated Andrew Marvell. An intimacy arose which was soon improved into a very strict friendship. This lady had a daughter, whose integrity, devotion, filial duty, and exemplary behaviour endeared her to all who were acquainted with her, and made her the darling of her mother, whose fondness for her grew to such a pitch that she could scarce ever bear her out of her sight.

Mr. Marvell being desirous of perpetuating the friendship between the two families, asked the lady to let her daughter come to Kingston, to stand godmother for a child of his. She consented to his request, though by her compliance with it she deprived herself of her daughter's company for a longer time (there being a necessity for the young lady sleeping at Kingston one night) than she would have agreed to had any person but Mr. Marvell been the solicitor upon such an occasion.

The young lady came over to Kingston, and the ceremony was performed. The next day, when she went down to the water side in order to return home, she found the wind very high, and the water so rough that the passage was dangerous. It was, indeed, supposed to be so dangerous at this time by the watermen that they earnestly dissuaded her from all thoughts of crossing the river. Having, however, never from her birth given her mother a moment's uneasiness, and knowing how miserable she would be till she saw her again, she insisted upon going, in spite of all the watermen could urge, in spite of all Mr. Marvell himself could advance, who strenuously entreated her to return to his house, and to wait there till the weather was more favourable. At last, finding her resolutely determined to risk her life rather than hazard the displeasure of a fond parent, he informed her that as she had brought herself into that perilous position on his account, he thought it incumbent on him, as a man of honour, to share it with her. Accordingly, when he had with difficulty prevailed on some watermen to undertake the passage, they both stepped into the boat.

Just as they put off, Mr. Marvell threw his gold-headed cane to some of his friends on shore, telling them that as he could not permit the young lady to cross the river alone, and as he was apprehensive that the passage would be fatal, he desired them to give it to his son, bidding him, at the same time, to remember his father. The boat then bore away, but had not proceeded far before it was overset, and the whole party drowned.

The lady, whose excessive fondness had plunged her daughter and her friend into this terrible situation, went the same afternoon into her garden and seated herself in an arbour, from whence she could view the water. While she was looking at the sea with a considerable deal of anxiety, as it was in a very tempestuous state, she saw, or rather thought she saw, a most lovely boy, with flaxen hair, come into the garden, and heard him, or rather thought she heard him, address her on

his approaching her directly in the following words:—'Your daughter is safely arrived, madam.' Surprised at such an address, the lady replied, 'My pretty dear, how didst thou know anything of my daughter, or that she was in danger?' Then, bidding him stay, she rose and went into the house to look for a piece of new money, as a reward for his care and diligence. When she returned to the garden the child was gone, and upon making inquiries in her family about him, she found that nobody except herself had seen him, and that there was no child in the neighbourhood that answered her description. She now began to entertain some suspicions of her calamity, and they were soon afterwards but too fatally confirmed. In the deep sorrow which she felt for the loss of her daughter, she did not, however, forget the still greater calamity which had befallen the family of her respected friend, in being deprived of their head and protector. Justly conceiving that she was bound by the strongest ties to make every reparation in her power, she sent for young Marvell, took upon herself the charge of his education, and left him her fortune at her death.

Humility.

The celebrated Madame Viot, though by no means handsome, had a habit of continually fixing her eyes on the glasses in any apartment where she happened to be. A lady of her acquaintance, offended with this inconsistency, once resolved to reproach her with it in the company of several other persons. 'There,' she said, 'is Madam Viot, for ever contemplating her own image.' 'Yes, it is true,' replied she; 'I wish to know by experience whether it is possible to habituate oneself to ugliness.'

Mrs. Rowe.

The celebrated writer of the 'Letters from the Dead to the Living,' is said to have possessed a command over her passions, and a constant serenity and sweetness of temper, which neither age nor misfortune could sour or ruffle. It is questioned whether she had ever been angry in her life. On all occasions she expressed an aversion to satire, so rarely free from malice or personality, and fortified her resolution against it by particular and solemn vows. 'I can appeal to you,' said she, in a letter to an old and intimate friend, 'whether you ever knew me make an envious or ill-natured reflection on any person upon earth? Indeed, the follies of mankind would afford a wide and various scene, but charity would draw a veil of darkness here, and choose to be for ever silent rather than expatiate upon the melancholy theme.'

Detraction appeared to her an inhuman vice, for which no wit could atone. She loved to praise, and took a pleasure on all occasions in doing justice to merit. She was ever the advocate for the absent, and extenuated

where she could not excuse. If compelled to reprove, gentleness and delicacy softened her reprehension. She never dictated to others, or arrogated to her own sentiments any deference or respect. Indifferent to fame, and fond of solitude, she shunned rather than sought applause. Her modesty followed her to the tomb, and even appeared afterwards in the order she left respecting her interment. Having desired that her funeral might be by night, and attended only by a small number of friends, she added, 'charge Mr. Bowden not to say one word of me in the sermon. I would lie in my father's grave, and have no stone or inscription over my dust, which I gladly leave to corruption and oblivion till it rise to a glorious immortality.' Her charities, considering the mediocrity of her fortune, bordered on excess; she consecrated by a solemn vow the half of her income to benevolent purposes. To enable herself to fulfil this engagement, she retrenched all superfluous expenses, and practised a rigid economy. The first time she accepted any acknowledgment from her bookseller, for her writings, she bestowed the whole sum on a distressed family; another time, on a similar occasion, she sold a piece of plate to relieve an exigency for which she was not sufficiently provided. It was her custom on going out, to furnish herself with pieces of money of different value to relieve such objects of compassion as might fall in her way. Her munificence was not confined to the place in which she lived, nor to any sect or party. 'I never,' said she, 'grudge my money but when it is laid out upon myself, for I consider how much it would buy for the poor.' Nor did she confine her charities to money; she gave to the distressed her time, her labour, her sympathy, often of infinitely greater value. She caused the children of the neighbouring poor to be instructed, and herself assisted in framing their minds and principles. Nor was her beneficence limited to the lower ranks. 'It was one of the greatest benefits,' she was accustomed to say, 'that could be done to mankind, to free them from the cares and anxieties that attend a narrow fortune.'

Conduct on the Scaffold.

The behaviour of the Princess Monaco, one of the many victims of the French revolution, on the morning of execution, will be long remembered for its eccentricity and heroism. About half an hour before the fatal summons came, after having in vain endeavoured to procure a pair of scissors, she broke one of the panes from the window that was in her room, and with a fragment of the glass sawed off her hair, which she delivered to a confidential friend, to be kept for her children; she then took a pot of rouge, and with the utmost deliberation applied some of it to each of her cheeks, assigning as a reason for this extraordinary conduct, that if she happened to have a moment of weakness, the populace, at least, should not have the satisfaction of perceiving

it. The celebrated Madame Roland's conduct, under the same circumstances, evinces perhaps a still stranger instance of greatness of mind in a female. She was carried to the place of execution in company with one man only, who seemed by no means reconciled to his fate; but, on the contrary, showed symptoms of the most violent terror; when arrived at the scaffold, Madame Roland begged that he would ascend it the first, as she was well convinced that he had not sufficient courage to witness her execution. 'Besides, sir,' added she, 'you certainly have too much good-bredness, to refuse the last request of a lady.'

Mademoiselle Sombreuil.

On the 2nd of September, 1792, when the general massacre of the prisoners took place at Paris, M. Sombreuil was on the point of being sacrificed, when he was rescued from the hands of the assassins by the heroic conduct of his daughter, though on the dreadful condition that she would drink success to the republic in a goblet of blood! Earnestly did she implore to be allowed to remain by the side of the parent, whose life she had thus saved; but this favour was denied her. The father and daughter were consigned to separate prisons, and saw each other no more. In the interval between their separation and M. Sombreuil's being brought to trial, not an hour of the day passed, in which his daughter did not despatch messenger after messenger, to be informed of his health and situation; and while it was possible to admit the least ray of hope that he might be saved, she continued to flatter herself with again seeing him. But when his execution had really taken place, and the arrival of the police officers to take possession, according to their usual mode, of the effects of the deceased, but too well assured her of it, she fell into a state of stupefaction, dead, as it were, to every feeling of nature. In this condition did she remain for the space of three days, refusing every kind of comfort and sustenance; and when she at length recovered from it, and was once more brought back to a sense of her misfortunes, her grief became so violent, that it seized upon her intellects, and it was generally apprehended that she would never regain them. One starlight evening, when she was taking the air on the promenade, in common with the rest of the prisoners, she made a sudden stop, and fixing her eye on a star of peculiar brilliancy, said aloud, 'Who knows, but the soul of my departed father is at present in that star? from that height he is now perhaps looking down on his unfortunate daughter.'

By the death of her father, she was plunged from a state of affluence into distress and poverty; as, by a decree of the Convention, the property of those who were executed reverted to the republic; and it was thus, to make use of *Barrière's* inhuman expression, that the National Assembly coined money in

the Place de la Revolution. She was now, therefore, alone and desolate in the world; her only remaining brother, and the man that she loved, and to whom she had been betrothed, were emigrants, and at a distance from her; so that there was no person near her on whom she had any kindred claim for comfort and support. From this situation she was relieved, as far as possible, by the generous and disinterested conduct of La Rive, the celebrated tragedian; in him she found a never-failing resource against her necessities, till the period arrived when, by the repeal of the laws relative to those who had been executed during the reign of Robespierre, she was enabled to recover her father's estates.

In the same prison with Mademoiselle Sombreuil, were confined the venerable Malesherbes and his children. The first of the family who perished was his son-in-law, M. Pelletier de Rosambo; and the next day after his execution, Malesherbes himself, with his daughter, Madame de Rosambo, and his two grandchildren, the Marquess and Marchioness of Chateaubriand, were called to trial upon a charge of having corresponded with the enemies of the republic, and conspired against its unity and indivisibility. Madame de Rosambo as she was quitting the prison, met Mademoiselle Sombreuil, and running up to her, she embraced her, saying, 'You were once happy enough to save the life of your father; I shall be equally happy in dying with mine.'

Benefits of Teazing.

The second Palæologus, Emperor of the East, had long laboured under a painful disease, for which his physicians had prescribed various remedies in vain. His family and the court were waiting the issue with anxiety, when a female, somewhat advanced in years, demanded a private audience of the empress. Brought into the imperial presence, she informed her august auditor that she was too gentle in her treatment and mode of behaviour to her husband, and that nothing was so likely to restore him to health as a little matrimonial discipline, duly and regularly administered. In short, the venerable visitor plainly asserted, that if the empress wished to preserve so valuable a life, it must be her business to vex and irritate the emperor by every means in her power.

The imperial matron replied, that she was very far from being deficient in so essential and indispensable a part of conjugal duty; but, like a good wife, she frankly confessed, that in administering this domestic medicine, she had somewhat relaxed her discipline since her husband's illness, lest it might exasperate his complaint. Of this the *privy* counsellor assured the imperial dame there was no danger; and finally induced her to dispense with liberality, a remedy which, from the earliest ages of the world, had been found so salutary.

Whether, on all occasions, it has been attended with such manifest and immediate ad-

vantage, is not certain; but in the case before us the irritation produced by the well-meant efforts of the empress brought on a copious perspiration, which, producing a salutary crisis, completely restored the royal patient, and he lived to a good old age.

Marriage in Lapland.

It is death in Lapland to marry a maid without the consent of her parents or friends. When a young man has formed an attachment to a female, the fashion is to appoint their friends to meet to behold the two young parties run a race together. The maid is allowed in starting the advantage of a third part of the race, so that it is impossible, except willing of herself, that she should be overtaken. If the maid over-run her suitor, the matter is ended; he must never have her, it being penal for the man to renew the motion of marriage. But if the virgin has an affection for him, though at first she runs hard to try the truth of his love, she will (without Atalanta's golden balls to retard her speed) pretend some casualty, and make a voluntary halt before she cometh to the mark or end of the race. Thus none are compelled to marry against their own wills; and this is the cause, that in this poor country, the married people are richer in their own contentment than in other lands, where so many forced matches make feigned love, and cause real unhappiness.

Foible Cured.

The wife of Lord Kames was a Miss Agatha Drummond, a lady distinguished for her attention to those domestic duties which form one of the brightest ornaments of the sex. Lord Woodhouselee, the biographer of Lord Kames, speaking of his wife, Mrs. Home, says:—'In the management of her household, where it was the more becoming in her to attend to economy, that her husband's turn for hospitality, and her own sense of what was suitable to the rank they occupied in life, rendered it necessary to maintain a handsome liberal establishment, Mrs. Home's conduct was a model of propriety. Abridging every superfluous expense, indulging in none of the frivolous gratifications of vanity, but studious alone of uniting the real comforts of life with that modest measure of external show which the station of a gentleman demands, she kept an elegant but simple table, at which the guests of her husband met always with a cheerful welcome. In the earlier period of Mr. Home's married life, attention to economy was a necessary duty; and he found in his partner that excellent good sense and discretion, which felt it no sacrifice to conform their mode of living to the just bounds of their income; but in one thing she caused her husband some uneasiness. Mrs. Home, who had a taste for everything that was elegant, was passionately fond of old china; and soon after her marriage, had made such frequent pur-

chases in that way, as to impress her husband with some little apprehensions of her extravagance. But how to cure her of this propensity was the question; after some consideration, he devised an ingenious expedient. He framed a will, bequeathing to his spouse the whole china that should be found in his possession at his death: and this deed he immediately put into her hands. The success of the plot was complete; the lady was cured from that moment of her passion for old china. This little pious fraud Mr. Home was wont frequently to mention with some exultation; but it was not so much the effect as the ingenuity of the stratagem that touched him.

Military Adventures.

When the subscription was opened in London in aid of the distressed Germans, an interesting female presented herself for relief to the committee, in consequence of wounds she had received in the battles fought in the cause of Europe, against France. She was a good-looking woman, about twenty-two years of age, and of a genteel carriage. The history she gave of herself was romantic. Her father was a Swede, who left his native country to serve in the British navy, and her mother the daughter of a merchant and shipowner in London. When she was about four years old, her father went with his family into Sweden, and exchanged the naval for a military life. On the Crown Prince joining the cause against France, he was captain of hussars, in which regiment he had two sons; his only daughter (the person in question) being influenced by the great affection she bore her father and brothers, as well as a sincere devotion to the cause of her country, was resolved to follow the fortunes of her family. It was in vain they endeavoured to persuade her to the contrary. She joined the regiment, and did the duty of a soldier, sharing in all the dangers and fatigues of an active military life. She was twice wounded, the last time in her left breast, and was cured at Leipsic. She brought along with her proper certificates of her services from Hamburgh; and her main object in coming to London was to inquire after her grandfather, of whom she could learn no tidings.

In August, 1821, another female actor in the late glorious wars was brought up for examination before the Court of Assize at Metz, on a charge of vagrancy, and of having used violence to some of the citizens. It appeared that she had served as a soldier from the age of twelve to her 64th year, during which she had fought under the command of Luckner and D'Estaing, and had served as a trumpeter for twenty-nine years in Italy, Egypt, Germany, Spain, and Russia, where she was taken prisoner, and sent into Siberia for the last three years. She had quitted Russia, and returned to her native country, to end her days in peace. She had claimed no remanc-

ration for her wounds at the hands of the minister. A miserable quarrel, provoked by the hardheartedness of the landlord of a public-house, who insisted upon having three pounds of bread in payment for two pennyworth of wine which the woman had regaled herself with, was the circumstance that constituted the charge, and which, if substantiated, would be punishable by five or ten years' imprisonment. The jury were much moved by the heroic simplicity of this courageous woman, who, from her infancy, had lived but to serve her country. She spoke of her wounds as of trifles which gave her no concern. She was acquitted unanimously, and a subscription commenced for her, to testify the interest she had inspired

Treatment of the Sex.

The treatment of the female sex has varied considerably in different ages and countries. Among the Greeks, woman did not enjoy that due respect which she has since inspired, in every country that can boast of the slightest advances towards civilization. The best woman, says Thucydides, is she of whom least is said, either in the way of good or harm. The greatest ornament to a woman was silence; and to remain at home, her chief duty. Even the tomb was no refuge from the persecuting emblems which admonished woman of her domestic duties. The bird of night, a muzzle, and a pair of reins, so often seen upon Grecian sculptures, were emblems which at once recorded the merits of the accomplished housewife interred within; and reminded the indolent, that the main excellences to which a virtuous woman could aspire, were to emulate the owl in watchfulness, to keep the mouth guarded, and to rule her family with the same dexterity as the charioteer guided his wheels at the public games.

Had home been the exclusive scene of their duties, unbounded sway, even there only, might have compensated for the absence of other privileges; but whatever was the authority vested in the mistress of a family, over the numerous slaves who composed an Athenian establishment, the utmost deference which she exacted from them, was only a pattern to herself, of the submission she was bound to pay to her imperious lord.

From the subversion of the Roman empire, to the fourteenth or fifteenth century, women spent most of their time alone. Almost entire strangers to the joys of social life, they seldom went abroad, but to be spectators of such public amusements and diversions, as the manners of the times countenanced. Francis I. was the first who introduced women on public days to court, which, before his time, consisted of nothing but grey-bearded politicians, and warriors clad in complete armour.

Plato rejoices that he was not a woman. Swift considered women only a higher species of monkeys; and the Turks will not allow them to have any souls. A Greek proverb

reckons it as 'the extreme disgrace of sloth, to be governed by a woman;' and the French, in their Salic law, seem to have recognised this axiom. Amongst the ancient Germans, however, women were in very high estimation. Tacitus informs us, that they were not only treated by their husbands with the greatest confidence in their domestic occupations, but were even made partakers of their martial toils. And so far did they carry their respect, that they even believed a certain divinity to reside in the female heart; a belief which was encouraged to such an extent among some of the fiercest of the German tribes, that they permitted women to rule over them in the name of the deity. Similar instances may also be mentioned among the ancient Britons, in the persons of Boadicea and Cartismandua; and much of the same transcendent respect justly continues to be shown to women by the laws and manners of England.

There are other nations, however, and particularly in the East, which present a sad reverse of the picture. In China, females appear to be in a very degraded condition. They have few or no privileges, and are watched with most jealous suspicion. Even the custom of compressing their feet in their infancy, is supposed to have been designed to enslave them the more effectually, as attempts to walk are often attended, in consequence, with considerable pain during life. But whatever may have been the cause, the continuance is easily explained; as long as the men will marry none but such as are crippled, crippled feet must for ever remain in fashion among Chinese ladies. It is kept up by the pride of superiority, and the dread of degradation.

One may discover in the proverbs of the Chinese their feelings towards the sex. 'The family,' it is said, 'in which there are fine women, has nothing to fear from robbers; its poverty will protect it.' Again, 'When the hen crows in the morning, domestic affairs are not going on as they should be;' and 'What the women have lost in their feet, they have added to their tongues.' Among the Hindoos, also, the women are kept in the utmost degradation. If no stranger is present, they wait on the men, but a Hindoo woman never sits down to eat with her husband; she and the younger children eat what he leaves. She never, indeed, mentions the name of her husband; but when she calls him, makes use of an interjection merely, as Hé! O! &c. When she speaks of him to others, she calls him master, or the man of the house. She never mixes in company, even at her own house, but remains in a separate room, while her husband sits smoking and talking with the guests.

Revolutionary Decree.

During the frenzy of the French revolution, the municipality of Paris made a decree which forbade *pretty* women appearing at the mayor's office, whither they came to solicit the release of the imprisoned aristocrats.

Some time after it was passed, Hebert, the attorney of the Common Council, complained to that body of the non-execution of this 'salutary law.' One of the members observed in extenuation, 'that in the land of freedom the public offices were necessarily open to all; that tastes differed, and that a lady might be admitted as ugly by one, and rejected by another as pretty; and that young and old, handsome or plain, all might have business to do; that, in short, the public offices could not execute the decree.' These complaints, however plausible, did not convince Hebert, who renewed his complaints against these *Circés*, as he called them, to the great satisfaction of the crowd of women, most of them old, and all of them disgusting, who composed the auditory.

Mrs. Howard.

The philanthropic Howard was blessed with a wife of singularly congenial disposition. On settling his accounts one year, he found a balance in his favour, and proposed to his wife to spend the money on a visit to the metropolis, for her gratification. 'What a beautiful cottage for a poor family might be built with that money,' was her benevolent reply. The hint was immediately taken, and the worthy couple enjoyed that greatest of all gratifications, the satisfaction of having done good for its own sake.

Mrs. Sheridan.

Lady Lucan was heard to say a very neat thing to Mrs. Sheridan: 'You must certainly be a very happy woman, madam, who have the felicity of pleasing the man that pleases all the world.'

Repartee.

M. Lalande dined one day at the house of Recamier, the banker; he was seated between the celebrated beauty, Madame Recamier, and Madame de Stael, equally distinguished for her wit. Wishing to say something agreeable to the ladies, the astronomer exclaimed, 'How happy I am to be thus placed between wit and beauty!' 'Yes, M. Lalande,' sarcastically replied Madame de Stael, 'and without possessing either.'

Rearing a Wife.

The eccentric Mr. Day, author of 'The History of Sandford and Merton,' had been early rejected by a young lady to whom he paid his addresses, and considering her as a fair sample of her sex, despaired of finding among them a wife such as he would choose; one that should have a taste for literature and science, for moral and patriotic

philosophy, fond of retirement from 'the infectious taint of human society;' simple as a mountain girl, in her dress, her diet, and her manners; and fearless and intrepid as the Spartan wives and Roman heroines. Observation soon taught him that there was no such creature ready made, and that he must, therefore, attempt to mould some infant into the being his fancy had formed.

Accompanied by a Mr. Bicknell, a barrister, rather older than himself, he went to Shrewsbury to explore the Foundling Hospital, and from the children there Mr. Day, in the presence of Mr. Bicknell, selected two girls of twelve years of age, both beautiful, one fair, with flaxen locks and light eyes, whom he called Lucretia; the other, a clear auburn brunette, with darker eyes, more glowing bloom, and chestnut tresses, he called Sabrina. These girls were obtained upon written conditions, for the performance of which Mr. Bicknell was guarantee. They were to the following effect:—That Mr. Day should, within the twelve months after taking them, resign one into the protection of some respectable tradeswoman, giving one hundred pounds to bind her apprentice, maintaining her, if she behaved well, till she married or began business for herself. Upon either of these events, he promised to advance four hundred more. He avowed his intention of educating the girl he should retain, with a view to make her his future wife, solemnly engaged never to injure her innocence, and if he should renounce his plan, to maintain her decently in some creditable family till she married, when he promised five hundred pounds as her portion. It would probably be quite unnecessary to make any appeal to the feelings of parents, or to offer any remarks upon the conduct of the governors of this Hospital respecting this strange bargain, for the particulars of which we are indebted to Miss Seward. The narrative goes on to inform us that Mr. Day went instantly into France with these two girls, not taking an English servant, that they might receive no ideas except those which he himself might choose to impart, and which he soon found were not very acceptable. His pupils teased and perplexed him, they quarrelled, they sickened of the smallpox, they chained him to their bedside by crying if they were left alone with any person who could not speak English. Hence he was constrained to sit up many nights, and to perform for them the lowest offices of assistance. They lost no beauty, however, by their disease, and came back with Mr. Day in eight months, when Sabrina was become the favourite. He placed Lucretia with a chamber milliner, and she afterwards became the wife of a linendraper in London. With Sabrina he actually proceeded during some years in the execution of his favourite project, but none of his experiments had the success he wished. Her spirits could not be armed against the dread of pain and the appearance of danger, a species of courage which, with him, was a *sine quâ non* in the character of a wife.

When he dropped melted sealing-wax upon her arms she did not endure it heroically, nor when he fired pistols at her petticoats, which she believed to be charged with ball, could she help starting aside or suppress her screams. When he tried her fidelity in secret keeping by telling her of well-invented dangers to himself, in which greater danger would result from its being discovered that he was *aware* of them, he once or twice detected her having imparted them to the servants and to her play-fellows. He persisted, however, in these foolish experiments, and sustained their continual disappointment during a whole year's residence in the vicinity of Lichfield. The difficulty seemed to be in giving her *motives* to self-exertion, self-denial, and heroism. It was against his plan to draw it from its usual sources, pecuniary reward, luxury, ambition, or vanity. His watchful cares had precluded all knowledge of the value of money, the reputation of beauty, and its concomitant desire of ornamented dress. The only inducement, therefore, which this girl could have to combat and subdue the natural preference in youth of ease to pain, and of vacant thought to the labour of thinking, was the desire of pleasing her protector, though she knew not how or why he became such, and in that desire fear had greatly the ascendant of affection. At length, however, he renounced all hopes of moulding Sabrina into the being which his disordered imagination had formed, and ceasing now to behold her as a wife, placed her at Sutton Coldfield, where during three years she gained the esteem of her instructress, grew feminine, elegant, and amiable. She was very lately still living, an ornament to the society in which she moved.

Mr. Day afterwards paid his addresses to two sisters in succession, both of whom rejected him. He at length succeeded in obtaining for a wife, a Miss Milnes of Yorkshire, to whom, after a singular courtship, he was united, in 1778. The best part of his conduct in this affair was, his settling her whole fortune, which was as large as his own, upon herself, totally out of his present or future control. What follows, is of a less amiable complexion. They retired soon after their marriage, first to Sapleford Abbots in Essex, and afterwards to Anningsley, near Chertsey in Surrey. Here they had no carriage, no appointed servant about Mrs. Day's own person, no luxury of any sort. Music, in which she was a distinguished proficient, was deemed trivial. She banished her harpsichord and music books. Frequent experiments upon her temper and her attachments, were made by him, whom she lived but to obey and love. Over these, we are told, she often wept, but never repined; and no wife, bound in the strictest fetters, as to her incapacity of claiming a separate maintenance, ever made more absolute sacrifices, to the most imperious husband, than did this lady, whose independence had been secured. She is even said to have died broken-hearted for his loss, two years after his death.

Hypatia.

Philosophy has never, perhaps, had a more illustrious female disciple than the beautiful Hypatia, daughter of Theon of Alexandria. Suidas, who mentions two books of her writing, one 'On the Astronomical Canon of Diophantus,' and the other, a Commentary on Apollonius, avers, that she not only exceeded her father in astronomy, but also that she understood all the other parts of philosophy. It is certain that she succeeded her father in the government of the Platonic school at Alexandria, and filled with reputation that chair, where not only Theon, but Ammonius, Hierocles, and many great and celebrated philosophers, had taught: and this at a time when men of great learning abounded both at Alexandria, and in many other parts of the Roman empire. The people regarded her as an oracle for her wisdom, and their magistrates were in the regular practice of consulting her in all important cases. Although she was thus frequently drawn into the assemblies of men, yet it was without the least reproach to the purity of her manners. 'Nor was she anything abashed,' says Socrates (the ecclesiastical historian), 'to appear thus among a crowd of men; for all persons, by reason of her extraordinary discretion, did, at the same time, both reverence and admire her.'

The end of Hypatia was melancholy. While she reigned the brightest ornament of Alexandria, Orestes was governor of the same place for the Emperor Theodosius, and Cyril, bishop or patriarch. Orestes having had a liberal education, admired Hypatia, and frequently consulted her. This created an intimacy between them, that was highly displeasing to Cyril, who had a great aversion to Orestes. Socrates says she was not a little traduced among the Christian multitude, as if she obstructed a reconciliation between Cyril and Orestes. This occasioned certain enthusiasts, heated by one Peter, a lecturer, to enter into a conspiracy against her, who watching an opportunity, when she was returning home from some place, first dragged her out of her chair, then hurried her to the church called Cæsar's, and stripping her, killed her with tiles. After this, they tore her to pieces, and carrying her limbs to a place called Cinaron, there burnt them to ashes.

Blue-Stocking Club.

The celebrated Mrs. Montague was in habits of friendship with the first wits and scholars of the age, and was the reputed founder of the society known by the name of the *Blue-Stocking Club*. This association was formed on the liberal and meritorious principle of substituting the rational delights of conversation, for the absurd and vapid frivolities of the card table. No particular attention was paid to her, but the conversation was general, cheerful, and unrestrained, far different from what is insinuated respect-

ing the company, by a satirist, who accuses them of going

'To barter praise for soup with Montague.'

The name of this club is said to be derived from the following circumstance. One of their most distinguished characters in the early days of the society, was Mr. Stillingfleet, who always wore *blue stockings*; his conversation was distinguished for brilliancy and vivacity, insomuch, that when, in his absence, the stock of general amusement appeared deficient, it was a common exclamation, *we can do nothing without the blue stockings*. And thus was the appellation acquired, which is now become frequently in use for all learned and witty ladies.

Renée Bordereau.

Among many heroines produced by the civil war of La Vendée, Renée Bordereau, commonly called Langevin, holds a foremost place. She was born at a village near Angiers, of humble parents. Forty-two individuals of her family lost their lives in the revolution, and her father was butchered before her eyes. This determined her to take up arms herself. During the course of six years, she fought on foot and on horseback in more than two hundred battles, with the most determined intrepidity. Her uncle was at the head of a party of republicans. Instigated by rage and zeal for royalty, she beheaded him. The republicans in the Vendean war were called the Blues. Langevin killed four Blues at St. Lambert, with her own hands. In the battle of Ponts de Cé, when she acted the part of a dragoon, she killed twenty-one of the enemy. Soon afterwards she liberated fifty priests at one time, and eight hundred at another, whose death had been determined on. A price of 40,000 francs was set on her head. She was thrown into prison for a crime, for which she could only prove her innocence by a discovery of her sex: she remained, however, five years in prison, where she was treated in the most shameful manner, and only obtained her freedom on the accession of Louis XVIII. to the throne. She has since had conferred upon her the order of the Lily.

The Ladies of Llangollen Vale.

Who has not heard of the celebrated recluses of Llangollen Vale, their mansion and their bowers? Although, says Miss Seward, they have not once forsaken their vale for thirty hours successively since they first retired to it in the bloom of youth, yet neither the long summer's night nor weeks of imprisoning snows, ever inspired one weary sensation, one wish of returning to the world. What a picture of contented enjoyment! 'You remember,' says the same writer, in one of her letters, 'Mr. Hayley's poetical compliment to the sweet miniature painter, Miers.

"His magic pencil in its narrow space,
Pours the full portion of uninjured grace."

'So may it be said of the talents and exertions which converted a cottage, in two acres and a half of turnip ground, to a fairy palace, amid the bowers of Calypso.

'It consisted of four small apartments; the exquisite cleanliness of the kitchen, its utensils, and its auxiliary offices, vieing with the finished elegance of the gay, the lightsome little dining room, as that contrasts the gloomy yet superior grace of the library, into which it opens.

'This room is fitted up in the Gothic style, the door and large sash windows being of that form, and the latter of painted glass, shedding a dim religious light. Candles are seldom admitted into this apartment. The ingenious friends invented a kind of prismatic lantern which occupies the whole elliptical arch of the Gothic door. This lantern is of cut glass, variously coloured, and containing two lamps with their reflectors. The light it imparts resembles that of a volcano, sanguine and solemn. It is assisted by two glowworm lamps, that, in little marble reservoirs, stand on the opposite chimney-piece; and these supply the place of the here always chastened daylight, when the dusk of evening sables, or when night wholly involves the thrice lovely solitude. A large Eolian harp is fixed in one of the windows, and when the weather permits them to be opened, it breathes its deep tones to the gale, swelling and softening as that rises or falls.

"Ah me! what hands can touch the strings so fine?"

Who up the lofty diapason roll,
Such sweet, such sad, such solemn airs divine,
And let them down again into the soul?"

'This saloon of Minerva contains the finest editions, superbly bound, of the best authors, in prose and verse, which the English, Italian, and French languages boast, contained in neat wire cases; over them, the portraits, in miniature, and some in large ovals, of the favoured friends of the celebrated votaries to that sentiment which exalted the characters of Theseus and Perithous, of David and Jonathan. Between the picture of Lady Bradford and the chimney-piece hangs a beautiful entablature, presented to the ladies of Llan-zollen Vale by Madame Sillery, late Madame Genlis. It has convex miniatures of herself and of her pupil, Pamela; between them is pyramidally placed a garland of flowers, copied from a nosegay gathered by Lady Eleanor in her bowers, and presented to Madame Sillery.

'The kitchen garden is neatness itself; neither there nor in the whole precincts can a single weed be discovered. The fruit trees are of the rarest and finest sort, and luxuriant in their produce; the garden house and its implements are arranged in the exactest order.

'Nor is the dairy house for one cow the last curiously elegant object of this magic domain. A short steep declivity shadowed over with tall shrubs conducts us to the cool and clean repository. The white and shining

utensils that contain the milk, the cream, the butter, are pure "as snows thrice bolted in the northern blast." In the midst a little machine, answering the purpose of a churn, enables the ladies to manufacture half a pound of butter for their own breakfast with an apparatus which finishes the whole process without manual operation.

'The wavy and shaded gravel-walk which encircles this Elysium is enriched with various shrubs and flowers. It is nothing in extent, and everything in grace and beauty, and in variety of foliage; its gravel smooth as marble. In one part of it we turn upon a small knoll which overhangs a deep hollow glen. In its tangled bottom a frothing brook leaps and clamours over the rough stones in its channel. A large spreading beech canopies the knoll; and a semi-lunar seat beneath its boughs admits four persons. A board nailed to the elm, has this inscription:

"O cara Selva! e Finnicello amato!"

'It has a fine effect to enter the little Gothic library as I first entered it at the dusk hour. The prismatic lantern diffused a light gloomily glaring. It was assisted by the paler flames of the small lamps on the chimney-piece; while through the opened windows we had a darkling view of the lawn on which they look, the concave shrubbery of tall cypress, yews, laurels, and lilacs; of the woody amphitheatre on the opposite hill, that seems to rise immediately behind the shrubbery; and of the grey barren mountain which, then just visible, forms the background. The evening-star had risen above the mountain; the airy harp loudly rung to the breeze, and completed the magic of the scene.

'You will expect that I say something of the enchantresses themselves, beneath whose plastic wand these peculiar graces arose. Lady Eleanor is of middle height, and somewhat beyond the *embonpoint* as to plumpness; her face round and fair, with the glow of luxuriant health. She has not fine features, but they are agreeable: enthusiasm in her eye, hilarity and benevolence in her smile. Exhaustless is her fund of historic and traditional knowledge, and of everything passing in the present eventful period. She has uncommon strength and fidelity of memory; and her taste for works of imagination, particularly for poetry, is very awakened, and she expresses all she feels with an ingenuous ardour at which the cold-spirited beings stare. I am informed that both these ladies read and speak most of the modern languages. Of the Italian poets, especially of Dante, they are warm admirers.

'Miss Pensonby, somewhat taller than her friend, is neither slender nor otherwise, but very graceful. Easy and elegant, yet pensive is her address and manner:

"Her voice, like lovers watch'd, is kind and low."

'A face rather long than round; a complexion clear, but without bloom, with a countenance which, from its soft melan-

choly, has peculiar interest. If her features are not beautiful, they are very sweet and feminine. Though the pensive spirit within permits not her lovely dimples to give mirth to her smile, they increase its sweetness, and, consequently, her power of engaging the affections. We see through their veil of shading reserve, that all the talents and accomplishments which enrich the mind of Lady Eleanor, exist with equal powers in this her charming friend.'

A later writer, Miss Hutton, who visited Llangollen in 1816, gives the following additional particulars of these fair recluses: 'All that I have heard of the ladies of Llangollen Vale is, that they were two young Irish women of noble families, who entered into a solemn renunciation of the male part of their species, vowed an eternal friendship for each other, eloped from their friends, and after roving about some time in search of a situation to their mind, settled in the vicinity of Llangollen. The cottage they found built to their hand, and they rent it at £20 a year, but they have expended a great deal of money in improvements. The neatness of the inside is such as exceeds belief, and every part of it is ornamented in a manner which could only be contrived and executed by women of the most elegant taste, who had no other employment.'

'No man is ever admitted to speak to the ladies, but their relations, and their gardener, who is a married man, and does not live in the house. They frequently receive visits from female friends, and Miss Seward has been of the number, but they never lodge anybody. Their domestics are two women servants, and one they brought with them, who is their housekeeper, and on whom the ladies bestow such a portion of their esteem, that to affront her is to offend them. They are fond of their garden, and an idea of their neatness may be formed from its being confidently asserted, though it is not true, that *their walks are swept with a hair broom*. I was told by a gentleman who went over the house some years ago, that a curious box covered with white satin and embroidery was seen in the dining room, and on undrawing the curtain, an old fat, lame lapdog appeared as the inhabitant: and I am now informed that Fie lele has paid the debt of nature, and his tomb is shown to strangers in the garden. Persons who have families, and live in the world, may laugh at this; to me it is very natural. Women must do something with their affections; and what they had to spare from each other, and their maid, could not, in their situation, be better bestowed, than on an animal that was sensible of their caresses, and returned their attachment.'

Maternal Joy.

A woman at Henley, in the Potteries, named Phebe Atkinson, had a son in the army, whom she had not heard from for several years, and supposed to be dead. One morning the post brought her a letter from

him, stating that he was alive and well, and should shortly be at home. Such was the joy of poor Phebe, at the intelligence of her lost son being found, that she broke out in fits of laughter and weeping, and in a few hours expired.

Gipsy Equivoque.

Some young ladies who had been taking a walk were accosted by a gipsy woman, who, for a small reward, very politely offered to show them *their future husbands' faces* in a pool of water that stood near. Such an offer was too good to be refused, and on paying the stipulated sum, the ladies hastened to the water, each in anxious expectation of getting a glance of the 'beloved'; but lo! instead of beholding the 'form and face' they so fondly anticipated, they were surprised to see only their own rosy cheeks and sparkling eyes glancing from below. 'Sure you are mistaken, woman,' exclaimed one of them, 'for we see nothing but our own faces in the water.' 'Very true, Mem,' replied the sagacious fortune-teller, 'but these will be your *husbands' faces* when you are married.'

Romantic Lover.

A romantic story is related of an Englishman, who sought the hand of a very charming lady, with whom he was passionately in love, but who constantly refused him. As he had reason to believe she loved him, he entreated to know the reason why she refused her consent to their union. The lady, subdued by his constancy, told him that her only motive for refusing him, was, that having by accident lost a leg, it had been replaced by a wooden one; and she feared that sooner or later this circumstance would chill his affection for her. This she declared to be her only motive. The lover protested that this would never make him change his love; but she persisted in refusing to marry him. Fired with love, and determined that nothing should obstruct his design, he, under the pretext of going a distant voyage, left the lady and hastened to Paris, where he had one of his own legs amputated. When he recovered, he returned to London, went to the lady, and told her that there was now no obstacle to their union, for that he was equally mutilated as herself. The lady, conquered by such a proof of affection, at last consented to marry him.

Marriage.

'What a delicious breath marriage sends forth!
The violet's bed's not sweeter. Honest well-lock
Is like a banquetting house built in a garden.
On which the spring's chaste flowers take delight
To cast their modest odours.'

MIDDLETON

Marriage is a part of the law of nature.

and is known to both civilized and savage states. After the commonwealths of Greece were established, marriage was much encouraged by the laws, and the abstaining from it was discountenanced, and in many places punished. The Lacedæmonians were very remarkable for their severity towards those who deferred marriage beyond a limited time, as well as to those who wholly abstained from it. The Athenians had an express law that all commanders, orators, and persons entrusted with any public affairs, should be married men.

The time of marriage varied in different places; the Spartans were not permitted to marry, till they arrived at their full strength; the reason assigned for which custom, by Lycurgus, was, that the Spartan children might be strong and vigorous; and the Athenian laws are said to have once ordered, that men should not marry till they were thirty-five years of age.

Most of the Grecian states, especially such as made any figure, required that the citizens should match with none but citizens, and the children were not allowed to marry without the consent of their parents. The usual ceremony in promising fidelity, was kissing each other, or giving their right hands, which was the general form of ratifying all agreements.

So important was the marriage state considered among the Romans, both in a moral and a political view, that they not only rewarded those who married, but decreed penalties against men who remained in a state of celibacy. Fines were first levied on unmarried men about the year of Rome 350; and when pecuniary forfeitures failed to ensure their obedience to these connubial edicts, their contumacious neglect of the fair sex was punished by degradation from their tribe. Celibacy continued, however, to gain ground in Rome; and to counteract its effects, we find that in the year 518 from the foundation of the city, the censors had recourse to the extraordinary measure of obliging all the young unmarried men to pledge themselves on oath to marry within a certain time.

Augustus followed the example of Cæsar, and augmented the penalties on bachelors, while he bestowed rewards on those who had numerous offspring born in wedlock. Marriage also gave numerous advantages to fathers of families: they obtained the preference in all public employments; and if they had not attained the age required by law, so many years of that period was dispensed with as they had children. Distinguished places were assigned to married men in the public theatres; they had precedence of their unmarried colleagues, and they were exonerated from the discharge of several burdensome public offices. Such were the immunities granted to married men among the Romans until the reign of the Emperor Constantine, who modified them in several points, and abolished the penalties imposed on celibacy.

Among all the savage nations, whether in Asia, Africa, or America, the wife is com-

monly bought by the husband from the father, or those other relations who have an authority over her; and the conclusion of a bargain for this purpose, together with the payment of the price, has therefore been the usual form or solemnity in the celebration of their marriages.

Notwithstanding the sacredness of the institution, the English law considers marriage in no other light than as a civil contract, its sanctity being left to the ecclesiastical law, to which it belongs to punish or annul unlawful marriages. Pope Innocent III. is said to have been the first to ordain the celebration of marriage in the church, before which it was a totally civil contract. In the time of the grand rebellion in England, all marriages were performed by the Justices of the Peace; and all these marriages were afterwards declared valid, by an act of the 12th of Charles the Second.

Matrimonial Lottery.

A recent traveller in the United States gives a curious account of a matrimonial lottery, which was formed there with beneficial effects, however singular it may seem.

‘On the 21st day of December last,’ says he, ‘I was passing through the state of South Carolina, and in the evening arrived in the suburbs of the town of ———, where I had an acquaintance, on whom I called. I was quickly informed that the family was invited to a wedding in a neighbouring house; and on being requested, I changed my clothes and went with them. As soon as the young couple were married, the company was seated, and a profound silence ensued. A young lawyer then arose, and addressed the company very eloquently; and in finishing his discourse, begged leave to offer a New Scheme of Matrimony, which he believed would be beneficial; and, on obtaining leave, he proposed—“That one man in the company should be selected as president; that this president should be duly sworn to keep entirely secret all the communications that should be forwarded to him in his official department that night; and that each unmarried gentleman and lady should write his or her name on a piece of paper, and under it place the name of the person they wished to marry; then hand it to the president for inspection; and if any gentleman and lady had reciprocally chosen each other, the president was to inform each of the result; and those who had not been reciprocal in their choice kept entirely secret.”

‘After the appointment of the president, communications were accordingly handed up to the chair, and it was found that twelve young gentlemen and ladies had made reciprocal choices; but whom they had chosen, remained a secret to all but themselves and the president. The conversation changed, and the company respectively retired.

‘Now hear the conclusion. I was passing through the same place on the 14th of March

following, and was informed that eleven of the twelve matches had been solemnized; and that the young gentlemen of eight couple of the eleven had declared that their diffidence was so great, that they certainly should not have addressed their respective wives, if the above scheme had not been introduced.

A Hard Choice.

In the seventeenth century the greater part of the property lying upon the river Ettrick, belonged to Scott of Harden, who principally resided at Oakwood Tower, a border house of strength, still remaining upon that river. William Scott, (afterwards Sir William) son of the head of this family, undertook an expedition against the Murrays of Elibank, whose property lay at a few miles distant. He found his enemy upon their guard, was defeated, and made prisoner in the act of driving off the cattle which he had collected for that purpose. Sir Gideon, the chief of the Murrays, conducted his prisoner to the castle, where his lady received him with congratulations upon his victory, and inquiries concerning the fate to which he destined his prisoner. 'The gallows,' answered Sir Gideon; 'to the gallows with the marauder.' 'Hout na, Sir Gideon,' answered the considerate matron in her vernacular idiom, 'would you hang the winsome young Laird of Harden, when ye hev three ill-favoured daughters to marry?' 'Right,' answered the baron, who caught at the idea, 'he shall either marry our daughter, mickle-mouthed Meg, or strap for it.'

When this alternative was proposed to the prisoner, he at first stoutly preferred the gibbet to 'mickle-mouthed Meg,' for such was the nickname of the young lady, whose real name was Agnes. But at length, when he was actually led forth to execution, and saw no other chance of escape, he retracted his ungallant resolution, and preferred the typical noose of matrimony, to the literal cord of hemp. It may be necessary to add, that 'mickle-mouthed Meg' and her husband were a very happy and loving pair, and had a very large family, to each of whom Sir William Scott bequeathed good estates, besides reserving a large one for the eldest.

Singular Alternative.

It was formerly a law in Germany that a female, condemned to a capital punishment, would be saved, if any man would marry her. A young girl at Vienna was on the point of being executed, when her youth and beauty made a great impression upon the heart of one of the spectators, who was a Neapolitan, a middle-aged man, but excessively ugly. Struck with her charms, he determined to save her, and running immediately to the place of execution, declared his intention to marry the girl, and demanded her pardon, according to the custom of the country. The

pardon was granted, on condition that the girl was not averse to the match. The Neapolitan then gallantly told the female that he was a gentleman of some property, and that he wished that he was a king that he might offer her a stronger proof of his attachment. 'Alas! sir,' replied the girl, 'I am fully sensible of your affection and generosity, but I am not mistress over my own heart, and I cannot belie my sentiments. Unfortunately, they control my fate; and I prefer the death with which I am threatened, to marrying such an ugly fellow as you are!' The Neapolitan retired in confusion, and the woman directed the executioner to do his office.

The Circassians.

The women of Circassia have long been celebrated for their beauty, and, certainly, there is no country in which greater care is taken in bringing up their female children, than in Circassia, where the girls are brought up entirely under the direction of the mother, although the boys are entrusted to strangers in preference to their parents. They learn to embroider, to make their own dress, and that of their future husbands. The daughters of slaves receive the same education, and are sold according to their beauty, at from twenty to one hundred pounds, and sometimes much higher. These are principally Georgians. Soon after the birth of a girl, a wide leather belt is sewed round her waist, and continues till it bursts, when it is replaced by a second. On the wedding night the belt is cut with a dagger by the husband, a custom sometimes productive of very fatal accidents. The bridegroom pays for his bride a marriage present or *kalyin*, consisting of arms or a coat of mail, but he must not see her or communicate with her without the greatest mystery. A Circassian will sometimes permit a stranger to see his wife, but he must not accompany him. The father makes the bride a present on her wedding day, reserving, however, the greater part of what he intends to give her till the birth of her first child. On this occasion she pays him a visit, receives from him the remainder of her portion, and is clothed by him in the dress of a matron, the principal distinction of which consists in a veil.

Before marriage, the youth of both sexes see each other freely, at the little rejoicings which take place on festivals. Before the ball, the young men show their activity and address in a variety of military exercises, and the most active have the privilege of choosing the most beautiful partners.

The Circassian women participate in the general character of the nation; they take pride in the courage of their husbands, and reproach them severely when defeated. They polish and take care of the armour of the men. Widows tear their hair, and disfigure themselves with scars, in testimony of their grief. The men had formerly the same custom, but are now grown more tranquil under the loss of their wives and relations. The habitation

of a Circassian is composed of two huts, because the wife and husband are not supposed to live together. One of these huts is allotted to the husband, and to the reception of strangers; the other to the wife and family; the court which separates them is surrounded by palisades or stakes.

The principal traffic of the Circassians is in their own children, particularly their daughters, whom they sell to Turkey and Persia, where they frequently marry to great advantage. This involuntary transfer is often very objectionable to the daughters; and Dr. Clarke mentions an instance of a Circassian female, who, conscious of her great beauty, preferred remaining a prisoner in the hands of the Cossacks, rather than return home to incur the hazard of being sold to masters less humane.

Gossips

Women are often accused of gossiping, but we are not aware that it has ever been the subject of legal penalties, except at St. Helena, where, among the ordinances promulgated in 1789, we find the following:—‘Whereas, several idle, gossiping women make it their business to go from house to house, about this island, inventing and spreading false and scandalous reports of the good people thereof, and thereby sow discord and debate among neighbours, and often between men and their wives, to the great grief and trouble of all good and quiet people, and to the utter extingishing of all friendship, amity, and good neighbourhood; for the punishment and suppression whereof, and to the intent that all strife may be ended, charity revived, and friendship continued, we do order, that if any women, from henceforth, shall be convicted of tale-bearing, mischief-making, scolding, or any other notorious vices, they shall be punished by ducking or whipping, or such other punishment as their crimes or transgressions shall deserve, or the governor and council shall think fit.’

The Albanian Women.

The unmarried Albanian girls bear their marriage portions upon their heads—their skull-caps, made of scarlet cloth, are surrounded with rows of Turkish paras, piastres, and other coins, like scales; sometimes, straps ornamented in a similar manner fasten the cap under the chin, and their long plaits of hair hanging down the back, are seen glittering with this nuptial treasure; so that they have the appearance of Amazonian warriors prepared for combat. Amongst the more opulent classes, alternate rows of Venetian sequins and other gold coins are interwoven amidst the silver. It is incredible what a degree of fatigue the poor peasant girl will undergo to add a single para to this store, or what privations she will endure rather than diminish it by that mite. All her hopes of settlement in life depend upon the completion of the dowry;

no beauty, no attachment, however fervent, will hasten the bridal day; imperious custom has so ordered it, that Plutus must precede, or Hymen will not follow. In the midst of these treasures are often seen coins of ancient Greece, given to them by friends and relations on their birthdays and other festivals, or picked up by themselves after rain amongst the ruins. A traveller has no better chance of increasing his collection than by application to the head-quarters of these Albanian damsels: the sum generally offered is so superior to the intrinsic value of the medal, that they seldom hesitate in making the exchange, though sometimes no entreaties, no bribes, will induce them; the reason of this obstinacy is, that they regard the legend impression upon the coin as an amulet or charm, like the celebrated Ephesian letters of antiquity, powerful in driving away evil spirits, and averting the influence of diseases.

Simplicity.

At the marriage of Monsieur the Count d’Artois, the city of Paris agreed to distribute marriage portions. A smart little girl of sixteen, named Lise Noirin, having presented herself to inscribe her name on the list, was asked who was her lover? ‘O,’ said she, with great simplicity, ‘I have no lover; I thought the city furnished everything.’ This being told to the Count, a worthy husband was sought out for the girl, and her marriage portion was doubled.

A Reproof.

Boursault, in his Letters, relates an anecdote of Mademoiselle d’Orleans, daughter of Gaston, the brother of Louis XIII., to which he was an eyewitness. She was amusing herself by playing with her domestics at the game of explaining proverbs by dumb show, and had already found out several by the gestures of the parties; she endeavoured, however, in vain, to comprehend the meaning of one of her gentlemen, who capered about, made faces, and played a thousand antic tricks. Tired with attempting to discover this enigma, she ordered him to explain himself. ‘Madam,’ said he, ‘my proverb means, *One fool makes many.*’ The princess looked on this as a reflection on her imprudence, in being too familiar with her servants; an error of which she was never afterwards guilty; but she banished the unlucky proverbialist from her presence for ever.

Women of India.

While Britons deplore the traffic in negroes, and have abolished the slave trade, it is a fact that there are persons who actually import beautiful women to the British settlements in India, in order to sell them to the rich Nabobs

or Europeans who may give a good price for them; but what is worse, they are sometimes played for at a game of chance. The following advertisement on this subject appeared in *Grimsby's Daily Advertiser*, of the 3rd of September, 1818, a paper printed at Calcutta.

'Females raffled for. Be it known, that six fair pretty young ladies, with two sweet and engaging children, lately imported from Europe, having the roses of health blooming on their cheeks, and joy sparkling in their eyes, possessing amiable tempers, and highly accomplished, whom the most indifferent cannot behold without expressions of rapture, are to be raffled for next door to the British Gallery. Scheme, twelve tickets, at twelve rupees each; the highest of the three throws doubtless takes the most fascinating.'

What a specimen of Calcutta morals does this advertisement exhibit! Surely a more abominable outrage upon morality and virtue has never been heard of than this, which is openly practised in a settlement under British laws and British government!

Amazons.

Ancient historians speak with great confidence of a nation of female warriors, who founded an empire in Asia Minor, upon the river Theriadaon, along the coasts of the Black Sea, who were called the Amazons. They are said to have formed a state, out of which men were excluded. It has, however, been much controverted, even among ancient writers, whether ever there really were such a nation as that of the Amazons; for although Herodotus, Pausanias, Diodorus Siculus, Justin, Pliny, Plutarch, and several others assert it, yet Strabo and Ptolemy as positively deny it.

The Amazons are represented as being armed with bows and arrows, with javelins, and also with an axe of a particular construction, which was denominated the axe of the Amazons. Numerous instances are related of their warlike exploits, and of the distinguished prowess of some of their leaders; they are said to have rendered themselves extremely formidable; to have founded cities, enlarged the boundaries of their dominions, and conquered several other nations.

Such were some of the feats related by the ancient writers of the Amazons; and several of the moderns, among whom is M. Petit, a French physician, contend that their existence is sufficiently proved by the testimony of such of the historians of antiquity as are most worthy of credit; by the monuments which many of them have mentioned; and by medals, some of which are still remaining.

That at any period there should have been women, who, without the assistance of men, built cities, and governed them; raised armies, and commanded them; administered public affairs, and extended their dominion by arms, is undoubtedly so contrary to all that has

been seen and known of human affairs, that it is in a high degree incredible; but that women may have existed sufficiently robust and courageous to have engaged in warlike enterprises, and even to have been successful in them, is certainly not impossible, however contrary to the usual course of things. That much of what is said of the Amazons is fabulous, there can be no reasonable doubt; but the ancient medals and monuments on which they are represented are so very numerous, and the testimonies of ancient writers so strong, as to render it difficult to believe that the whole is a mere fiction.

Instances of heroism in women somewhat resembling that of the ancient Amazons, are not unfrequent in modern times. The time; and manners of chivalry in particular, by bringing great enterprises, bold adventures, and extravagant heroism, into fashion, inspired the women with the same taste. The women, in consequence of the prevailing passion, were then seen in the middle of camps and armies; they quitted the soft and tender inclinations, and the delicate offices, of their own sex, for the toils and occupations of ours. During the crusades, animated by the double enthusiasm of religion and of valour, they often performed the most romantic exploits; obtained indulgences on the field of battle, and died with arms in their hands, by the side of their lovers or husbands. Mezeray relates, that in the year 1147, 'many women did not content themselves with taking the cross, but they also took up arms to defend it, and composed squadrons of females, which rendered credible all that has been related of the prowess of the Amazons.'

Holinshed relates, that during the time that Lucius Antonius commanded the Romans in Britain, he sent for fresh succours to Rome, stating that 'the enemies were never more cruel and fierce, not only the men, but also the women, who cared not for the loss of their own lives, so that they might die revenged;' and in several of the combats which the Britons had with the Romans, the women, who were advanced in years, accompanied the men to the field, encouraging them to fight valiantly; and often assailed the enemy with stones on their approach, while the younger ones fought in the ranks like men.' The same faithful historian relates, that 'Vida assembled a mighty host of the Britons, amongst whom were five thousand women, wholly bent to revenge the wrongs that had been done by the Romans, or to die in the pain.'

In Europe, the women attacked and defended fortifications; princesses commanded armies, and obtained victories. Such was the celebrated Joan de Montfort, disputing for her duchy of Bretagne, and fighting herself. Such was the still more celebrated Margaret of Anjou, the wife of Henry VI. of England, whose genius supported a long time, a feeble husband, taught him to conquer, replaced him on the throne, and twice relieved him from prison; and which, though oppressed by misfortune and by rebels, did not bend until after

she had decided in person twelve battles. Black Agnes, the Countess of March, who defended the castle of Dunbar against the English, in the reign of Edward III. [see *Anecdotes of Enterprise*], exhibited proofs of the most determined bravery. The Maid of Orleans is another well-known instance; and the Abbé Arnaud relates, that a Countess of Belmont used to take the field with her husband, and fight by his side. She sent several Spanish prisoners of her taking to Marshal Feuquiers; and what is not a little extraordinary, this Amazon was at home all affability and sweetness, and gave herself up to reading and acts of piety.

The warlike spirit among the women consistent with ages of barbarism, when everything is impetuous because nothing is fixed, and when all excess is the excess of force, continued in Europe upwards of four centuries, always showing itself in moments of national danger; and there were eras and countries in which that spirit appeared with particular lustre: such were the displays it made in the 15th and 16th centuries in Hungary, and in the islands of the Archipelago and the Mediterranean, when they were invaded by the Turks. [For numerous traits of female heroism, see *Anecdotes of Enterprise, Heroism, and War.*]

Rights of Women.

English history presents many instances of women exercising prerogatives which they are now denied. In an action at law, it has been determined, that an unmarried woman having a freehold, might vote for members of parliament, and there is one instance on record, that of Lady Packington, who returned two members of Parliament. A recent authority has decided that a woman may be an overseer of the poor. Lady Broughton was keeper of the Gatehouse prison; and in a much later period, a woman was appointed governor to the House of Correction at Chelmsford, by order of the court. In the reign of George the Second, the minister of Clerkenwell was chosen by a majority of women.

The office of Champion has frequently been held by a woman, and was so at the coronation of George the First. The office of Grand Chamberlain is at present filled by two women: the office of High Constable of England has been borne by a woman; and that of Clerk of the Crown in the Court of King's Bench has been granted to a female. The celebrated Anne, Countess of Pembroke, Dorset, and Montgomery, held the hereditary office of Sheriff of Westmoreland, and exercised it in person at the assizes at Appleby, sitting on the bench with the judges. Deaconesses are mentioned in ancient councils, when baptism was by immersion; and in an old edition of the New Testament, printed in the year 1574, a woman is called a minister of the church; and in the present day, women are permitted to preach among the Quakers and Methodists.

Danger of Insincerity.

The Empress Eudocia, amidst all the grandeur of so elevated a station, led a very studious and philosophic life, and lived very happily, till a trifling accident exposed her to the jealousy of her husband.

The emperor, it is said, having sent her an apple of an extraordinary size, she sent it to Paulinus, whom she respected on account of his learning. Paulinus, not knowing from whom it came, presented it to the emperor, who soon after seeing the empress, asked her what she had done with the apple? Eudocia being apprehensive of raising suspicions in her husband, if she should tell him that she had given it to Paulinus, very unwisely declared that she had eaten it. Her confusion may easily be conceived, when the emperor produced the apple, and indignantly gave vent to his suspicions of the motives which had led to the present, and her disingenuous concealment of it. He ordered Paulinus to be put to death; but allowed Eudocia to retire to Jerusalem, where she spent many years in the most irreproachable manner, and distinguished herself by her acts of charity and beneficence.

The Tartars.

Although the Mahometan law allows a plurality of wives, yet very few of the Tartars have more than one. As long as they continue to live in amity with the first, they seldom take a second. Their weddings are very splendid, and it is by no means unusual for a Tartar peasant to spend from one to two thousand roubles at his marriage. A Tartar having more than one daughter, will not give the younger in marriage before the elder, even though a higher price be offered for her; therefore, be her beauty or disposition ever so much commended and extolled by her attendants, the girl has no chance of being married sooner than her sisters, or, perhaps, if there be many of them, of getting a husband at all. Among the peasantry, however, this rule is often dispensed with. The daughter of a Murza may not marry a peasant. A Tartar wife is most completely the slave of her husband, and is only desirable as she serves to gratify his passions, or to connect him with some Tartar of better family or greater riches than himself. Among the peasantry, however, who are less bound by rigid forms, or less observant of them than their superiors, sincere affection is often displayed; but their religious tenets, as long-established customs, teach them to suppress and subdue feeling, rather than to indulge it. When a Murza visits the apartments of his women, they all rise on his entrance, and again when he leaves it, although he comes and goes very frequently. This ceremonious mark of respect is never omitted, even by the wife or by any other of the females, except they be very old women, who, on account of their age, are excused from this form.

But although a Tartar husband is supreme and absolute, and though he considers his wife most completely his slave, still he is affectionate and kind to her, and instances of unhappy marriages are very rare. If a husband should beat or ill-use his wife, she may complain to the Mulla, who, attended by the principal people of the village, comes to the house, and pronounces a formal separation between them; the woman, in such cases, goes back to her relations.

The Tartar women are very affectionate mothers, and suckle their children for two or three years, thinking it very barbarous in the more civilized nations to wean theirs so early.

Marriage Brokers.

In Genoa there are marriage brokers, who have pocket-books filled with the names of the marriageable girls of the different classes, with notes of their figures, personal attractions, fortunes, &c. These brokers go about endeavouring to arrange connexions; and when they succeed, they get a commission of two or three per cent. upon the portion. Marriage at Genoa is quite a matter of calculation, generally settled by the parents or relations, who often draw up the contract before the parties have seen one another; and it is only when everything else is arranged, and a few days previous to the marriage ceremony, that the future husband is introduced to his intended partner for life. Should he find fault with her manners or appearance, he may break off the match, on condition of defraying the brokerage, and any other expenses incurred.

The Ancient Germans.

Among the ancient Germans, the matron maintained that rank in society which love had assigned to the maiden. No one dared to ridicule the sacred union of marriage, or term an infringement of its laws a compliance with the manners of the age. The German wife once married, seldom endeavoured to form a second union, but continued in honoured widowhood to direct and manage the family of her deceased husband. These plain, simple, virtuous, and temperate manners of the German females placed them in that high rank of society which the sex occupies when its conduct is estimable. The superintendence of the domestic affairs was assigned to the German women. They were capable of exercising the supreme authority in their tribe, and of holding the honours of the priesthood. But the influence of the women in a German tribe, as well as their duties in war, will be best understood from the words of Tacitus:

‘It is the principal incitement to the courage of the Germans, that in battle their separate troops or columns are not arranged promiscuously as chance directs, but consist each

of one united family or clan, with its relatives. Their dearest pledges are placed in the vicinity, whence may be heard the cries of their females, the wailings of the infants, whom each accounts the most sacred witnesses and the dearest eulogists of his valour. The wounded repair to their mothers and spouses, who hesitate not to number their wounds, and to suck the blood that flows from them. The females carry refreshment to those engaged in the contest, and encourage them by their exhortations. It is related that armies when disordered, and about to give way, have renewed the contest at the instance of the women, moved by the earnestness of their entreaties, and the danger of approaching captivity, a doom which they dread more on account of their females, than even on their own; insomuch, that these German states are most effectually bound to obedience among the number of whose hostages there are noble damsels as well as men. They deem, indeed, that there resides in the female sex something sacred and capable of presaging the future; nor do they scorn their advice or neglect their responses.’

Female Corsair.

Jane of Belville, the widow of M. de Clisson, who was beheaded at Paris in 1343, on suspicion of carrying on a correspondence with England and the Count de Montfort, was filled with grief for the death of her husband, and exasperated at the ill-treatment which she considered him to have received. She immediately sent off her son secretly to London, and when her apprehensions were removed with respect to him, she sold her jewels, fitted out three ships, and put to sea, to revenge the death of her husband upon all the French with whom she should meet.

This new corsair made several descents upon Normandy, where she stormed the castles; and the inhabitants of that province, while their villages were blazing, more than once witnessed one of the finest women in Europe, with a sword in one hand and a torch in the other, urging the carnage, and eyeing with pleasure all the horrors of war.

Female Judge.

In the reign of Henry VIII., when, during some family quarrels, Maurice Berkeley, Nicholas Poyntz, and a riotous company of their servants, entered the park of Lady Anne Berkeley, at Yate, killed the deer, and set a hay-rick on fire, this lady repaired to court and made her complaint. The king immediately granted her a special commission under the great seal to enquire, hear, and determine these riots and misdemeanours, and made her one of the commissioners and of the quorum. She then returned to Gloucester, opened the commission, sat on the bench in the public sessions hall, impanelled a jury, and received evidence; when Nicholas Poyntz,

Maurice Berkeley, and several of their followers, were found guilty of divers riots and disorders, and punished accordingly.

The Moors.

The Moors (says Mungo Park in his 'Travels') have singular ideas of feminine perfection. The gracefulness of figure and motion, and a countenance enlivened by expression, are by no means essential points in their standard; with them, corpulence and beauty appear to be terms nearly synonymous. A woman of even moderate pretensions must be one who cannot walk without a slave under each arm to support her; and a perfect beauty is a load for a camel. In consequence of this prevalent taste for unwieldiness of bulk, the Moorish ladies take great pains to acquire it early in life; for this purpose, many of the young girls are compelled by their mothers to devour a great quantity of kouskous, and drink a large bowl of camel's milk every morning. It is of no importance whether the girl has an appetite or not, kouskous and milk must be swallowed; and obedience is frequently enforced by blows. I have seen a poor girl sit crying, with the bowl at her lips, for more than an hour; and her mother, with a stick in her hand, watching her all the while, and using the stick without mercy whenever she observed that her daughter was not swallowing. This singular practice, instead of producing indigestion and disease, soon covers the young lady with that degree of plumpness which, in the eye of a Moor, is perfection itself.

Lady Sheffield.

When the disastrous events of the French revolution had thrown so many of its victims on British bounty, among those who were foremost to open their houses and their purses to the unfortunate emigrants, was Lord Sheffield, while his amiable wife rivalled her generous partner in mitigating the sufferings of so many unhappy persons. Priests and laity, men and women of all ranks and opinions, provided they were honest and unfortunate, found protection in the house, relief in the bounty, and comfort in the friendship of this virtuous couple. Lady Sheffield was particular in her attentions towards them; sometimes, with her own hands, she administered relief to the French women, thus sparing their delicacy while she provided for their wants; at other times, she brought them medical assistance. In concert with her husband, she commissioned their friends to find out all the unfortunate sick emigrants, whom she placed in an hospital, of which her brother was governor, and she furnished clothes to those that wanted them. After carrying on this 'labour of love' for some time, her ladyship, at length, fell a victim to her zeal and benevo-

lence. For some time she had been afflicted with a violent and almost incessant pain in her side, which she would not suffer to interrupt the course of her humanity. She had just fitted up a house for the accommodation of those, who, by contagious diseases, were kept at a distance from all kind of relief. On Good Friday, in 1793, she spent nearly two hours in this hospital, and two more at church, in extremely cold weather. The next day a pleurisy came on, and on the Tuesday following she terminated her valuable life.

Matrimonial Adventure.

A native of Paris, who had acquired a large fortune in one of the French West India Islands, when somewhat advanced in life, resolved to share his fortune with a woman of merit; but not meeting with one to please him, he determined to apply to a personal friend and commercial correspondent in Paris. Bred up exclusively to commerce, he knew no other style than that he used in trade, and treated of the affairs of love as he did those of business. He wrote to his friend, and among a number of commissions, was the following:—

'Item.—Seeing that I have taken a resolution to marry, and that I do not find a suitable match for me here, do not fail to send by next ship bound hither, a young woman of the qualifications and form following:—As for a portion, I demand none. Let her be of an honest family, between twenty and twenty-five years of age, of a middle stature and well proportioned, her face agreeable, her temper mild, her character blameless, her health good, and her constitution strong enough to bear the change of the climate, that there may be no occasion to look out for a second through lack of the first soon after she comes to hand, which must be provided against as much as possible, considering the great distance and the dangers of the sea. If she arrives here, conditioned as above said, with the present letter endorsed by you, or at least an attested copy thereof, that there may be no mistake or imposition, I hereby oblige and engage myself to satisfy the said letter, by marrying the bearer at fifteen days sight. In witness whereof, I subscribe this,' &c.

The Parisian merchant, who, during a long life of commercial industry, had never before had such a commission, read over and over this singular order, which put the future spouse of his friend on the same footing as the sales of goods he had to send him. He endeavoured, however, to execute his trust as faithfully as he could; and after many enquiries, he thought he had found a lady who possessed the necessary qualifications, in a young woman of reputable family, but without fortune, good education, and tolerably handsome. He made the proposal to her, as his friend had directed; and the young gentlewoman, who had no subsistence but from a cross old aunt, who gave her a great deal

of uneasiness, accepted it. A ship bound for the island was then sitting at Rochelle; the gentlewoman went on board it, together with the bales of goods, being well provided with all necessaries, and particularly with a certificate in due form, and endorsed by the correspondent. She was also included in the invoice, the last article of which ran thus:—

'Item.—A young gentlewoman of twenty-five years of age, of the quality and shape and conditioned as per order, as appears by the affidavits and certificates she has to produce.'

The writings which were thought necessary for so exact a man as her future husband, were, an extract from the parish register; a certificate of her character, signed by the curate; an attestation of her neighbours, setting forth that she had, for the space of three years, lived with an old aunt, who was intolerably peevish, and yet she had not, during the whole of that time, given her the least cause of complaint; and lastly, the goodness of her constitution was certified by four physicians of eminence.

Previous to her departure on so singular an errand, the Parisian merchant sent letters of advice by other ships, to his friend, announcing that by such a ship he should send a young woman, describing her age, character, and appearance. The letters of advice, the bales, and the lady, all arrived safe in port; and the expectant merchant, who was one of the foremost on the pier, when she landed, was gratified to see in a handsome young woman, that his wishes had been attended to. The lady being introduced, presented him with his correspondent's letter, endorsed, 'The bearer of this, is the spouse you ordered me to send you.' A few days were devoted to courtship, and to ascertaining each other's disposition, when the nuptial ceremony took place with great magnificence, and Martinique did not boast a happier couple than the one thus singularly united.

The Mexicans.

When a Mexican arrives at an age capable of bearing the charges of the marriage state, a suitable wife is singled out for him; but before the union can be concluded, the divines are consulted, and, according to their predictions, the match is abandoned or pursued. If they predict happiness to the couple, the young girl is demanded of her parents by certain women, styled solicitors, who are among the most respectable of the youth's kindred. The first time that these women go to the house of the damsel, is at midnight, when they carry presents, and demand her in the most humble and respectful terms. The first demand is always refused. The second is urged with various arguments as to the rank and fortune of the youth. This produces a more favourable answer from the parents of the young woman; and consent having at length been obtained, and a day fixed for the nuptials, the young woman, after a proper exhor-

tation from her parents, is conducted to the house of her father-in-law; and if of noble family, she is carried in a litter. The bridegroom and his relations receive her at the gate of the house, with four torches borne by four women. As soon as the bride and bridegroom meet, they offer incense to one another. They then enter the hall, and sit down on a new and curiously wrought mat, spread in the middle of the chamber, and close to the fire, when a priest ties part of the gown of the bride, to the mantle of the bridegroom; and in this ceremony the matrimonial contract chiefly consists. They offer sacrifices to their gods, and exchange presents with one another. A feast follows, of which all their friends partake; and when the guests are exhilarated with wine, they go out and dance in the open air; but the new married couple retire within the house, in which they shut themselves for four days, spending the time in fasting and prayer. At the end of these days they are considered as man and wife; and having dressed themselves with all the ornaments common upon such occasions, the ceremony is concluded by making presents of dresses to the guests, proportioned to the circumstances of the married pair.

Reparation of the Wrongs of Women.

In almost all countries have cruel laws and customs, at one time or other, contributed to render the condition of woman degraded and unhappy. As civilization triumphs, her wrongs get redressed; but the most polished societies are yet far from the point at which M. Diderot once gallantly desired to see them arrive. 'Woman!' said he, 'how sincerely do I lament with you! There is but one way to make amends for all your sufferings, and were I a law-giver, this perhaps you would obtain. Freed from all servitude, you should be *sacred* wherever you appear.'

Pun Feminine.

A young Spanish lady was once playing on the piano-forte in the presence of an English gentleman, but did not accompany the instrument with her voice. On being asked to sing she pleasantly replied, 'Yo no puedo cantar, pero puedo *encantar*.' 'I cannot sing, but I can *enchant*.' The ladies of Spain are said to be fond of punning.

Constantia Grierson.

This extraordinary lady, whose maiden name is not recorded, was a striking and singular instance of early learning and acquirements. Nothing is recorded of her until her eighteenth year, when Mrs. Pilkington in-

forms us that Constantia was brought to her father, and that then she was a perfect mistress of the Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and French languages, and was far advanced in the study of the mathematics. Mr. Pilkington having inquired of her where she gained this prodigious knowledge, she modestly replied, that when she could spare time from her needlework, to which she was closely kept by her mother, she had received some little instruction from the minister of the parish. She wrote elegantly (says Mrs. P.) both in verse and prose; but the turn of her mind was chiefly to philosophical or divine subjects; nor was her piety inferior to her learning. The most delightful hours this lady declares that she had ever passed, were in the society and conversation of this 'female philosopher.' 'My father,' adds she, 'readily consented to accept of Constantia as a pupil, and gave her a general invitation to his table, by which means we were rarely asunder. Whether it was owing to her own design, or to the envy of those who survived her, I know not, but of her various and beautiful writings, I have never seen any published, excepting one poem of hers in the works of Mrs. Barber. Her turn, it is true, was principally to philosophical or religious subjects, which might not be agreeable to the present taste; yet could her heavenly mind descend from its sublimest heights to the easy and epistolary style, and suit itself to my then gay disposition.'

Mrs. Barber likewise gives her testimony to the merit of Constantia, of whom she declares, 'that she was not only happy in a fine imagination, a great memory, an excellent understanding, and an exact judgment, but had all these crowned by virtue and piety. She was too learned to be vain, too wise to be conceited, and too clear-sighted to be irreligious. As her learning and abilities raised her above her own sex, so they left her no room to envy any; on the contrary, her delight was to see others excel. She was always ready to direct and advise those who applied to her, and was herself willing to be advised. So little did she value herself upon her uncommon excellences, that she has often recalled to my mind a fine reflection of a French author, "that great geniuses should be superior to their own abilities."

Constantia married a Mr. George Grierson, a printer in Dublin, for whom Lord Carteret, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, obtained a patent appointing him printer to the king; in which, to distinguish and reward the merit of his wife, her life was inserted.

She died in 1733, at the premature age of twenty-seven, admired and respected as an excellent scholar in Greek and Roman literature, in history, theology, philosophy, and mathematics. Her dedication of the Dublin edition of Tacitus to Lord Carteret, affords a convincing proof of her knowledge in the Latin tongue. Dr. Harwood esteems her Tacitus one of the best edited books ever published. She wrote many fine poems in English, but esteemed them so slightly, that very few copies of them were to be found after

her decease. What makes her character the more remarkable is, that she rose to this extraordinary eminence entirely by the force of natural genius and uninterrupted application. As a daughter, a wife, and a friend, her conduct was amiable and exemplary; and had she been blessed with the advantages of health and longer life, there is every reason to believe she would have made a more distinguished figure in the learned world than any woman who had preceded her.

Marie Antoinette.

The exquisite feeling which pervaded the heart of the beautiful but unfortunate Marie Antoinette, was never more strongly exemplified than in her conduct respecting Sir Charles Asgil, who, but for her interference, would have shared the fate of Major André. The letter which the queen dispatched to General Washington, not only preserved the life of this gallant officer, but immortalized the benign spirit which actuated the soul of his truly illustrious advocate. The reception given by the queen to Lady Asgil at Versailles, when she went to thank her for the preservation of a beloved son, was almost unexampled: she raised the amiable mother in her arms, and mingled tears of genuine sensibility with those of the noblest, the purest maternal fondness.

When this lovely and amiable queen was condemned by the revolutionary tribunal of France, and the sentence was read to her, she was asked, 'Have you nothing to answer upon the determination of the law?' She answered, 'Nothing.' 'And you, officious defenders?' said the president, addressing himself to her counsel. 'Our mission is fulfilled with respect to the widow Capet,' was their reply.

The unfortunate princess suffered under the guillotine, the day after her condemnation. The execution took place in the Place de la Revolution, where Louis XVI. had suffered before her. The streets were lined by two very close rows of armed citizens. As soon as the queen left the Conciergerie, to ascend the scaffold, the multitude which was assembled in the courts and the streets, cried out *bravo*, in the midst of plaudits. Marie Antoinette had on a white loose dress, and her hands were tied behind her back. She looked firmly round her on all sides. She was accompanied by the rector of St. Landry, and on the scaffold preserved her natural dignity of deportment.

After the execution, three young persons dipped their handkerchiefs in her blood. They were immediately arrested.

The queen had been basely calumniated, yet, during her trial, not one particle of evidence was adduced, tending to taint her moral character, although rewards and honours were held out to any person who would accuse her with the slightest appearance of probability.

Female Enthusiasm.

It is especially when under the influence of love, of jealousy, or of superstition, in the transports of maternal tenderness, or in the manner in which they partake of popular emotions—it is in these cases, more than any other, that woman excites our astonishment and admiration : beautiful as the seraphim of Klopstock, terrible as the demon of Milton. The distinctions of a busy and contentious life interrupt and repress the passions of men ; but a woman broods in silence and retirement over those which occupy her mind. 'To plunge a woman into madness, who is under the influence of intense emotion,' says M. Diderot, 'it is only necessary that she attain the solitude she seeks. A man,' he continues, 'never sat at Delphi on the sacred tripod ; a woman alone could deliver the Pythian oracle, could alone raise her mind to such a pitch as seriously to imagine the approach of a god, and, panting with emotion, to cry, "*I perceive him ! I perceive him ! there, there ! the god !*"' It was a woman, too, that walked bare-footed in the streets of Alexandria, with dishevelled hair, a torch in one hand, and a vessel of water in the other, exclaiming, "*I will burn the heavens with this torch, and extinguish the fires of hell with this water, that man may love his God for himself alone.*" Such parts are to be acted by women alone.

Reforming a Wife.

Mynheer van der —, who in 1796 lived in high style on the Keizer Gratz, in Amsterdam, had a very modest wife, who dressed most extravagantly, played high, gave expensive routs, and showed every disposition to squander money quite as fast as her husband gained it. She was young, handsome, vain, and giddy, and completely the slave of fashion. Her husband had not the politeness to allow himself to be ruined by her unfeeling folly and dissipation ; he complained of her conduct to her parents and nearest relations, whose advice was of no more use than his own. Next he had recourse to a respectable minister of the Lutheran church, who might as well have preached to the dead. It was in vain to deny her money, for no tradesman would refuse to credit the elegant, the fascinating wife of the rich Van der —. Involved as the young lady was in the vortex of fashionable dissipation, she had not yet ruined her health and reputation ; and her husband, by the advice of his friend M—k—r, determined to send her for six months to a Verbaetering Huysen, or House for the Reformation of Manners, such as is to be found in most of the towns of Holland. With the utmost secrecy he laid before the municipal authorities the most complete proofs of her wasteful extravagance, and incorrigible levity ; added to which, she had recently attached herself to gaming with French officers of rank, who lay under an imputation of being remark-

ably expert in levying contributions. She was already in debt upwards of thirty thousand florins to tradesmen, although her husband allowed her to take from his cashier a stipulated sum every month, which was more than competent to meet the current expenses of his household ; while to meet a loss which occurred in play, her finest jewels were deposited in the hands of a benevolent money-lender, who accommodated the necessitous upon unexceptionable security being previously left in his custody.

Her husband was fully twenty years older than his volatile wife, of whom he was rationally fond, and at whose reformation he aimed, before she should be carried too far away by the stream of fashionable dissipation.

Against his will, she had agreed to make one of a party of ladies, who were invited to a grand ball and supper, at the house of a woman of rank and faded character. Her husband, at breakfast, told her she must change her course of life, or her extravagance would make him a bankrupt, and her children beggars. She began her usual playful way of answer, saying, 'She certainly had been a little too thoughtless, and would soon commence a thorough reformation.' 'You must begin to-day,' said her husband, 'and as a proof of your sincerity, I entreat you to drop the company of —, and to spend the evening at home this day with me and your children.' 'Quite impossible, my dear man,' said the modest wife, in reply, 'I have given my word, and cannot break it.' 'Then,' said her husband, 'if you go out this day, dressed, to meet that party, remember for the next six months these doors will be barred against your return ; are you still resolved to go ?' 'Yes,' said the indignant lady, 'if they were to be for ever barred against me !'

Without either anger or malice, Mynheer van der — told her 'not to deceive herself, for as certain as that was her determination, so sure would she find his foretelling verified.' She told him, 'If nothing else had power to induce her to go, it would be his menaces.' With this they parted, the husband to prepare the penitentiary chamber for his giddy young wife, and the latter to eclipse every rival at the ball that evening.

To afford her a last chance of avoiding an ignominy which it pained him to inflict, he went once more to try to wean her from her imprudent courses, and proposed to set off that evening for Zutphen, where her mother dwelt : but he found her sullen, and busied with milliners and dressers, and all the paraphernalia of splendid attire.

At the appointed hour, the coach drove to the door, and the beautiful woman (full dressed, or rather undressed) tripped gaily downstairs, and stepping lightly into the coach, told the driver to stop at —, on the Keizer Gratz. It was then dark, and she was a little surprised to find the coach had passed one of the city gates ; the sound of a clock awoke her as from a dream. She pulled the check-string, but the driver kept on ; she then called

out, when some one behind the coach told her, in a suppressed voice, that 'she was a prisoner, and must be still !' The shock was severe ; she trembled in every limb, and was near fainting with terror and alarm, when the coach entered the gates of a Verbering Huisen, where she was doomed to take up her residence. The matron of the house, a grave, severe, yet well-bred person, opened the door, and calling the lady by her name, requested her to alight. 'Where am I ? I beseech you tell me, and why I am brought here ?' 'You will be informed of everything, madam, if you will please to walk in doors.' 'Where is my husband ?' said she, in wild affright, 'sure he will not let me be murdered ?' 'It was your husband who drove you hither, madam ; he is now upon the coachbox !' This intelligence was conclusive : all her assurance forsook her ; she submitted to be conducted into the house, and sat pale, mute, and trembling, her face and dress exhibiting the most striking contrast. The husband, deeply affected, first poked. He told her 'that he had no other means to save her from ruin, and he trusted the remedy would be effectual ; and when she quitted that retreat, she would be worthy of his esteem.'

She then essayed by the humblest protestations, by tears and entreaties, to be permitted to return, and vowed, 'that never more, whilst he lived, would she ever offend him. Save me (said she) the mortification of this punishment, and my future conduct shall prove the sincerity of my reformation.' Not to let her off too soon, she was shown her destined apartment and dress, the rules of the house, and the order for her confinement during six months ! She was completely overpowered with terror, and fell senseless on the floor. When she recovered, she found her husband having her temples, and expressing the utmost anxiety for her safety. 'I have been unworthy of your affection,' said the fair penitent, 'but spare me this ignominious fate ; take me back to your home, and never more shall you have cause to reproach me.' Her husband, who loved her with unabated affection, notwithstanding all her levity, at last lent, and the same coach drove her back to her home, where not one of the domestics (a trusty man-servant excepted) had the least suspicion of what had occurred. As soon as her husband led her to her apartment, she knelt on her knee, and implored his pardon ; he told him the extent of all her debts, begged him to take her to Zutphen for a few weeks, and promised so to reduce her expenditure as to make good the sums she had so inconsistently thrown away.

Allowing for the excessive terror she felt, then, instead of being driven to ——'s rout, she was proceeding round the ramparts, outside the city gates, which she could not wholly overcome, she spent the happiest evening of her life with her husband ; and from that day abandoned her former career of dissipation, and became all that her husband desired, a good wife and an affectionate mother.

Mademoiselle Mars.

Mademoiselle Mars, celebrated as the first comic actress in France, was a great admirer of Bonaparte ; and after his return to France in 1815, she constantly wore the violet (the symbol adopted by his partisans) on some part of her dress. One of her friends, a royalist, observed on the occasion, 'I do not wonder at it ; the emperor has always considered Mars as the first of the gods.' 'Yes,' she replied, 'and Mars regards the emperor as the first of mortals.'

M. Papillon de Ferté, superintendent of the theatres, said to her, in a tone at once gentle and gallant, 'Charming rose, when will you cease to be a violet ?' 'When the *papillon* (a butterfly) becomes an eagle,' was the reply.

The Beautiful Ropemaker.

In Lyons there is a street called *La Belle Cordière*, or the Beautiful Ropemaker. It derived its name from Louisa Labbe, the wife of one Ennemond Perrin, a ropemaker, who resided in that street more than two centuries ago, and was the wonder of all the learned of her time, for her poetical talents, and for her knowledge of Latin, Italian, and Spanish, in each of which she wrote verses. A splendid collection of her poems was published at Lyons at late as 1762.

Four Sisters.

Sir Anthony Cooke, the celebrated preceptor to Edward VI., was peculiarly happy in four daughters, all of whom made a distinguished figure among the females of the period in which they lived. MILDRED, the *eldest* of these daughters, was married to the great Lord Burleigh, and is said to have been not much inferior to him in political talent. She was particularly learned in the Greek tongue, her reading having embraced not only all the classic writers of Greece, but the most eminent of the Christian fathers, such as Cyril, Chrysostom, and others. A piece of St. Chrysostom's was translated by her from the original, into the English tongue. ANNE, the *second* daughter, who became the wife of Sir Nicholas Bacon, and was the mother of the immortal Lord Bacon, rivalled her sister in the knowledge of the dead languages. She gave an early specimen of her industry, piety, and learning, by translating out of Italian into English, twenty-five sermons, written by Bernard Ochinus, concerning 'The Predestination and Election of God.' When the learned Bishop Jewel wrote his 'Apology for the Church of England,' which had a considerable effect in quieting the clamours of the Roman Catholic writers against the reformed religion, this lady undertook to translate it from the Latin into English, that it might be accessible to the common people ; and considering the style of the age, her translation

is both faithful and elegant. Mr. Strype informs us, that after she had finished the translation, she sent the copy to the author, accompanied with an epistle to him in Greek, which he answered in the same language, and was so satisfied with the translation, that he did not alter a single word. Archbishop Parker, to whom she had also submitted her work, bestowed the highest praise on it, which he confirmed by a compliment of much elegance. He returned it to her *printed*, knowing, as he said in his letter to her, that he had 'thereby done for the best, and in this point used a reasonable policy, that is, to prevent such excuses as her modesty would make, in stay of publishing it.' ELIZABETH, the *third* daughter, having enjoyed the same liberal education which was bestowed on her sisters, was equally happy in improving it, and gained the applause of the most eminent scholars of the age. It was observed by Sir John Harrington, that if Madame Vittoria, an Italian lady, deserved to have her name celebrated and transmitted to posterity by Ariosto, for writing some verses, in the manner of an epitaph, upon her husband, after his decease, no less commendation was due to the lady before us, who did as much and more, not only for two husbands, but for her son, daughter, brother, sister, and her venerable old friend, Mr. Noke, of Shottesbrooke, in the Greek, Latin, and English tongues. She was married first to Sir Thomas Hoby, and afterwards to John, Lord Russell. KATHERINE, the *fourth* daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke, was also famous for her knowledge in the Greek and Latin tongues, and for her skill in poetry. A short piece from her pen has been preserved by Sir John Harrington, and Dr. Thomas Fuller. Sir John says, that her design in writing it was to get a kinsman of hers sent to Cornwall, where she resided, and to prevent his going beyond sea. Mr. Phillips, in his 'Theatrum Poetarum,' asserts, that it was her lover, Sir Henry Killigrew, to whom she was afterwards married.

Lady Elizabeth Hastings.

On the death of George, Earl of Haddington, his sister, Lady Elizabeth Hastings, succeeded to a fortune, not so great as to be called splendid, yet sufficient to enable her to afford an illustrious example of active goodness and beneficence. She fixed her principal residence at Ledstone House, Yorkshire, where she became the patroness of merit, the benefactress of the indigent, and the intelligent friend and counsellor of the surrounding neighbourhood. Temperate, chaste, and simple in her habits, she devoted her time, her fortune, and the powers of her understanding, which were of a high order, to the benefit and happiness of all around her. 'Her cares,' says her biographer, 'extended even to the animal creation, while over her domestics she presided with the dispositions of a parent, providing for the improvement of their minds.

the decency of their behaviour, and the propriety of their manners. She would have the skill and contrivance of every artificer used in her house, employed for the ease of her servants, and that they might suffer no inconvenience or hardship. Besides providing for the order, harmony, and peace of her family, she kept great elegance in and about her house, that her poor neighbours might not fall into idleness and poverty for want of employment; and while she thus tenderly regarded the poor, she would visit those in the higher ranks, lest they should accuse her of pride, or superciliousness.' Her system of benevolence was at once judicious and extensive. Her benefactions were not confined to the neighbourhood in which she lived, to many families in various parts of the kingdom she gave large annual allowances. To this may be added her munificence to her relations and friends, her remission of sums due to her in cases of persons in distressed circumstances, and the noble hospitality of her establishment. To one relation she allowed five hundred pounds annually; to another she presented a gift of three thousand pounds; and to a third three hundred guineas. She acted also with great liberality towards a young lady whose fortune had been nearly lost in the South Sea scheme; erected and endowed four charity schools; gave £1000 for building a new church at Leeds; besides leaving, at her death, many considerable sums for charitable and public uses. Yet will it be believed? the whole of this lady's fortune fell short of three thousand pounds a year!

Madame de Staël.

This distinguished lady, whose name is identified with the literature of the age in which she lived, was as justly celebrated for her amiable temper and disposition, as for her literary talents, splendid as they were. Madame de Staël loved all around her, and extended to human nature her affection for her friends. The distinctions between different kinds of attachment were never less marked than in her; the sentiment was one and the same, and assumed the decided cast in her character much more than that of the different relations of life, or the disposition of the persons she loved. In her maternal and filial affection, friendship, gratitude, all seemed love. There was emotion in all her attachments, which appeared to differ rather in intensity than in kind; and they were naturally expansive and ardent.

The affection of Madame de Staël for her father (the once famous M. Necker) was unbounded, and evinced itself on every occasion by the most watchful attentions on him during his life, and by the respect she entertained for his memory. His miniature she always carried about her, and it was to her the object of a kind of superstition. She had a bas relief sculptured on the funeral monuments of her parents, which showed a fine imagination. An airy figure, as if already beatified, is

drawing towards the skies another that appears to look with compassion on a young woman, veiled and prostrate on a tomb. Madame Necker, her husband, and her daughter, are represented under this emblem, which, likewise, indicates the passage from this life to life eternal. This celebrated author and strong-minded woman was not free from singular superstitions. In her last illness, finding that she could not recover, she became impatient, and indulged in many singular fancies, one of which was, that she should not die comfortably, save in the bed of her intimate friend, Madame Gay, the author of two French novels, and several successful dramatic pieces. Madame Gay instantly consented to it; Madame de Staël was conveyed on a mattress to her house; and the instant she was put into Madame G.'s own bed, she said, 'Now, my dear Sophia, I shall die in peace—God bless you.'

Lady Howe.

When Lieutenant-Colonel Howe, who had an important command in the reduction of Quebec, returned home, he found that his mother had procured for him a seat in the House of Commons for the town of Nottingham, which had been represented by his eldest brother. Lady Howe, who was afterwards Lady of the Bedchamber to the Princess Dowager of Wales, on this occasion published the following energetic address to the gentlemen, clergy, and burgesses of Nottingham.

'As Lord Howe is now absent upon the public service, and Lieutenant-Colonel Howe with his regiment at Louisburg, it rests with me to beg the favour of your votes and interest, that Lieutenant-Colonel Howe may supply the place of his late brother as your representative in parliament.

'Permit me, therefore, to implore the protection of every one of you as the mother of a man whose life has been lost in the service of his country.'

'CHARLOTTE HOWE.'

The Hindoos.

The Hindoo women are almost in every instance unable to read. The jealous Hindoos are afraid lest such an acquirement should make them proud or inconstant; hence they inculcate that if a woman learns to read and write, she will certainly become a widow, or fall into some great calamity; and many stories are circulated of the dreadful accidents that have happened to women who had learnt to read.

The wives of respectable Hindoos are scarcely ever seen in the street with their husbands, except they be going a journey. When Hindoo countrywomen see an Englishwoman walk arm-in-arm with her husband, they exclaim, with the utmost astonishment, 'Oh! what is this? Do you see? They

take their wives by the hand and lead them about, showing them to other English without the least shame. These people have not the least shame.'

The permission of polygamy, and the ease with which a man may put away his wife, has been very unfavourable to the interests of virtue, and has contributed greatly to the universal corruption of the Hindoos. A man sometimes separates himself from his wife in this way; he calls her mother, and after that it becomes indelicate to live with her. A person who may be an occasional visitor, not unfrequently addresses himself in this manner to the females of the family as a pledge for the purity of his behaviour.

When a woman is overwhelmed with grief for the death of a child, she sits at the door, or in the house, or by the side of the river, and utters her grief in some such language as the following:

'Ah! My Huree-das! Where is he gone? 'My golden image Huree-das, who has taken?' 'I nourished and reared him, where is he gone?' 'Take me with thee.' 'He played around me like a golden top.' 'Like his face I never saw one,' &c. &c. Each of these ejaculations is followed by 'Ah! my child.'

If a female attempts to console the mother with such arguments as she thinks may allay her grief, the mother replies, 'Ah, mother! the heart does not receive advice. Was this a child to be forgotten? His forehead bore the marks of king-ship. Ah! my child! Since it was born the master never staid in the house; he was always walking about with the child in his arms.' These lamentations for the dead are often so loud as to be heard at a great distance. Sometimes they are accompanied by tearing the hair, beating the forehead, and rolling from side to side as if suffering under extreme agony.

Caroline, Queen of George II.

When the death of George the First was known in London, Caroline, then become queen by the accession of her illustrious husband to the throne, addressed a letter to the younger branches of the royal family, which does great honour to her feelings, and shows her goodness of heart. It was as follows:

'MY DEAR CHILDREN,

'I write to you after a most troublesome night, with a dead king always before my eyes, and he will never be out of my thoughts; I believe the king, your father, cannot give you a greater proof of the love and good intention he has for you than he did in remembering you before he went to London. I hope the death of your grandfather will be a lesson to you of the instability of all human grandeur, and that you will always be prepared to give an account to the great God of all your actions whenever he pleases to call you before him. Adieu, my dears.

'CAROLINE.'

Indian Adventure.

Mr. Hearne, in his journey from Hudson's Bay to the Northern Ocean, quotes a singular narrative of the adventures of a poor Indian woman that his party met with in the course of their route. One day in January, when they were hunting, they saw the track of a strange snow shoe, which they followed; and at a considerable distance came to a little hut, where they discovered a young woman sitting alone. As they found that she understood their language they carried her with them to their tents. On examination she proved to be one of the Western Dog-ribbed Indians who had been taken prisoner by the Athapuscow Indians, in the summer of 1770; and in the following summer, when the Indians that took her prisoner were near this part, she had escaped from them with an intent to return to her own country; but the distance being so great, and having, after she was taken prisoner, been carried in a canoe the whole way, the turnings and windings of the rivers and lakes were so numerous that she forgot the track; so she built the hut in which she was found to protect her from the weather during the winter, and here she had resided from the first setting in of the fall.

From her account of the moons past since her escape, it appeared that she had been near seven months without seeing a human face; during all which time she had supported herself very well by snaring partridges, rabbits, and squirrels; she had also killed two or three beavers and some porcupines. That she did not seem to have been in want is evident, as she had a small stock of provisions by her when she was discovered; and was in good health and condition, and one of the finest Indian women in North America.

The methods practised by this poor creature to procure a livelihood were truly admirable, and are great proofs that necessity is the real mother of invention. When the few deer-sinews that she had an opportunity of taking with her were all expended in making snares, and sewing her clothing, she had nothing to supply their place, but the sinews of the rabbits' legs and feet; these she twisted together for that purpose with great dexterity and success. The animals which she caught in those snares not only furnished her with a comfortable subsistence, but of the skins she made a suit of neat and warm clothing for the winter. It is scarcely possible to conceive that a person in her forlorn situation could be so composed as to be capable of contriving or executing anything that was not absolutely necessary to her existence; but there were sufficient proofs that she had extended her care much farther, as all her clothing, beside being calculated for real service, showed great taste, and exhibited no little variety of ornament. The materials, though rude, were very curiously wrought, and so judiciously placed, as to make the whole of her garb have a very pleasing, though rather romantic appearance.

Her leisure hours from hunting had been

employed in twisting the inner rind or bark of willows into small lines, like net-twine, of which she had some hundred fathoms by her with this she intended to make a fishing-net as soon as the spring advanced. It is of the inner bark of willows, twisted in this manner that the Dog-ribbed Indians make their fishing-nets; and they are much preferable to those made by the Northern Indians.

Five or six inches of an iron hoop made into a knife, and the shank of an arrow-head of iron, which served her as an awl, were all the metals the poor woman had with her when she eloped; and with these implements she had made herself complete snow-shoes, and several other useful articles.

Her method of making a fire was equally singular and curious, having no other materials for that purpose than two hard sulphureous stones. These, by long friction and hard knocking, produced a few sparks, which at length communicated to some touchwood; but as this method was attended with great trouble, and not always with success, she did not suffer her fire to go out all the winter.

The singularity of the circumstance, the comeliness of her person, and her approved accomplishments, occasioned a strong contest between several of the Indians of the party, who should have her for a wife: and the poor girl was actually won and lost at wrestling, by nearly half a score different men the same evening.

When the Athapuscow Indians took this Indian woman prisoner, they, according to the universal custom of those savages, surprised her and her party in the night, and killed every soul in the tent, except herself and three other young women. Among those whom they killed, were her father, mother, and husband. Her young child, four or five months old, she concealed in a bundle of clothing, and took it with her undiscovered in the night; but when she arrived at the place where the Athapuscow Indians had left their wives (which was not far distant), they began to examine her bundle, and finding the child, one of the women took it from her, and killed it on the spot.

This last piece of barbarity gave her such a disgust to those Indians, that notwithstanding the man who took care of her, treated her in every respect as his wife, and was, she said, remarkably kind to, and even fond of her, so far was she from being able to reconcile herself to any of the tribe, that she rather chose to expose herself to misery and want, than live in ease and affluence among persons who had so cruelly murdered her infant.

The Duchess of Gordon.

Among those illustrious females who have conferred dignity and honour on rank and nobility, must be mentioned Jane, Duchess of Gordon, a lady eminently distinguished for her engaging deportment, and for being the life and soul of elegant parties, especially those met for festive amusement. Her Grace,

however, possessed other qualities of a higher character, and the popularity she had acquired by gladdening life, and diffusing delightful feelings, were employed in benefiting her country.

When the defeat of General Burgoyne's army in America rendered extraordinary exertions necessary, and loyal and patriotic individuals promoted the public service by raising regiments, the Gordon family was among the first to come forward. The Duchess of Gordon, conscious of the influence which she had acquired among all ranks, determined to employ it in promoting so noble an object. In the very depth of winter, when the gay and splendid season was beginning in London, and when arrangements were making for the elegant parties and festive enjoyments of high life, her Grace quitted the metropolis, and set out for the cold regions of the Highlands. The presence of a lady, whose affability, condescension, and goodness they regarded with such gratitude and admiration, inspired the gallant mountaineers, and a corps of volunteers was soon formed, ready to encounter any foe to their sovereign, or the house of Gordon.

Mrs. Elizabeth Carter.

The celebrated translator of Epictetus, in her infancy and youth afforded no indication of her future acquirements. Indeed the labour and difficulty with which she attained the rudiments of the learned languages, were such as wearied even her father's patience, and he repeatedly advised her to relinquish the attempt. Mrs. Carter, however, was one who united the most assiduous application with the utmost energy of mind, and she was resolved that nothing but physical necessity or death should arrest her progress. The day was not sufficient for the prosecution of her studies, and the morning often dawned before she had withdrawn from her books. Such, indeed, was her ardent desire for the acquisition of knowledge, and so unalterable her resolution to overcome the impediments of nature, that in order to prevent drowsiness, she used to tie a wet towel round her temples.

When the remonstrances of her father prevailed on her to retire before midnight, a bell was affixed to the head of her bed, from which a string descended into the garden below; and the sexton, who rose between four and five o'clock, had positive directions to pull the cord as he passed to his morning labours, that she might be roused to the business of the day. Her incessant application at length triumphed; she became perfect mistress of the Greek and Latin languages, to which she afterwards added French, Italian, Spanish, and German, and no inconsiderable acquaintance with the Portuguese, Hebrew, and Arabic. Astronomy and history were her favourite recreations, and she was well skilled in the mathematics, and ancient geography.

The classical entertainments of Mrs. Carter soon procured her the friendship and

acquaintance of the most distinguished characters of the age. With Dr. Johnson she was on terms of the most friendly intercourse; and he entertained such an opinion of her acquirements, that speaking of a celebrated scholar, he remarked, 'that he understood Greek better than any person he had ever met with, except Mrs. Carter.'

Such was the attention paid to Mrs. Carter, by Dr. Secker, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, that it was supposed by many of his friends, after he became a widower, that he wished to marry her. This, however, she always positively denied to be the case, and was fully convinced that he felt for her nothing more than friendship and esteem. The same thing was also confirmed with regard to that good and amiable prelate, Dr. Hayter, first Bishop of Norwich, and then of London; but it is pretty certain that whatever the bishop's inclinations might be, they never led him so far as to make her an offer of marriage. Once, indeed, when the two bishops and Mrs. Carter were together, Dr. Secker jocularly alluded to this subject, and said, 'Brother Hayter, the world says that one of us two is to marry Madam Carter (by which name he was accustomed to address her, and speak of her); now, I have no such intention, and therefore resign her to you.' Dr. Hayter, with more gallantry, bowed to her, and replied, 'that he would not pay his Grace the same compliment, and that the world did him great honour by the report.'

But the character of Mrs. Carter is best drawn by herself, in a letter to her amiable friend Miss Talbot, written in 1746. After mentioning her plan for being called up early in the morning, already noticed, she says:—

'And now I am up, you may be like to inquire to what purpose. I sit down to my several lessons as regular as a schoolboy, and lay in a stock of learning to make a figure with at breakfast; but for this I am not yet ready. My general practice about six is to take up my stick and walk, sometimes alone, and at others with a companion, whom I call on in my way, and draw out half asleep, and consequently incapable of reflecting on the danger of such an undertaking; for to be sure she might just as well trust herself to the guidance of a jack-a-lantern; however, she has the extreme consolation of grumbling as much as she pleases, without the least interruption, which she does with such a variety of comical phrases that I generally laugh from the beginning to the end of our journey. Many are the exercises of patience she meets with in our peregrination, sometimes half-roasted with the full glare of sunshine upon an open common; then dragged through a thread-paper path in the middle of a corn-field, and bathed up to the ears in dew; and at the end of it perhaps forced to scratch her way through the bushes of a close shady lane, never before frequented by any animal but birds. In short, towards the conclusion of our walk, we make such deplorable ragged figures, that I wonder some prudent country justice does not take us up for vagrants, and

cramp our rambling genius in the stocks. An apprehension that does not half so much fright me, as when some civil swains pull off their hats; and I hear them signifying to one another, with a note of admiration, that *I am Parson Carter's daughter*. I had much rather be accosted with "Good morrow, sweet-heart," or "Are you walking for a wager?" When I have made myself fit to appear among human creatures, we go to breakfast, and are, as you imagined, extremely chatty; and this, and tea in the afternoon, are the most sociable and delightful parts of the day. Our family is now reduced to my eldest sister and a little boy, who is very diverting at other times, but over our tea everybody is so eager to talk that all his share in the conversation is only to stare and eat prodigiously. We have a great variety of topics, in which everybody bears a part, till we get insensibly upon books; and whenever we go beyond Latin and French, my sister and the rest walk off, and leave my father and me to finish the discourse and the tea-kettle by ourselves, which we should infallibly do, if it held as much as Solomon's molten sea. I fancy I have a privilege for talking a vast deal over the tea-table, as I am tolerably silent the rest of the day. After breakfast everyone follows their several employments. My first care is to water the pinks and roses, which are stuck about in twenty different parts of my room; and when this task is finished, I sit down to a spinnet, which, in its best state, might have cost about £15, with as much importance as if I knew how to play. After having deafened myself for about half an hour, with all manner of noises, I proceed to some other amusement, that employs me about the same time, for longer I seldom apply to anything; and thus, between reading, working, writing, twirling the globes, and running up and down stairs an hundred times to see where everybody is, and how they do, which furnishes me with little intervals of talk, I seldom want either business or entertainment. Of an afternoon I sometimes go out, not so often, however, as in civility I ought to do; for it is always some mortification to me not to drink tea at home. It is the fashion here for people to make such unreasonably long visits, that before they are half over, I grow so restless that I am ready to fly out of the window. About eight o'clock I visit a very agreeable family, where I have spent every evening for these fourteen years. I always return precisely at ten, beyond which hour I do not desire to see the face of any living wight; and thus I finish my day, and this tedious description of it, which you have so unfortunately drawn upon yourself.

Lady Hamilton.

Whatever may have been the errors of Lady Hamilton, her devotion to the interests of her country are unquestionable; and during the fourteen years that she was with her husband, Sir William Hamilton, then ambassador to

the Court of Naples, she rendered many important services to the cause in which Great Britain was struggling. When the French revolution rendered it necessary that the King of the Two Sicilies should quit Naples, a British man-of-war conveyed the king and royal family, with his immense treasure, to Sicily. Lady Hamilton exerted herself at this critical period with a remarkable degree of resolution, dexterity, and success. In the disguise of a sailor, her ladyship not only contrived to get all their wealth, as well as the most valuable pictures, on board the *British Admiral*, Lord Nelson's ship, but she also assisted in extricating the royal family from an insurrection in the capital, where the populace were inflamed to such a pitch of madness as to be ready to sacrifice them to their vengeance.

During the storm that occurred in their passage to Palermo, and when the queen was abandoned by all the ladies of her court, this faithful Englishwoman not only accompanied but attended on her majesty; and one of the children, overcome with fright and fatigue, died in her arms. When, in consequence of a sudden change in the affairs of France, Naples was restored to its sovereign, Lady Hamilton was the first to repair thither; and she procured all the principal females of the capital to sign a petition to the queen, earnestly entreating her return; a request which was soon after complied with.

But it was not to the royal family of Naples alone, that Lady Hamilton proved useful; for during her long residence in Italy, she was always attentive to the interest of the country that gave her birth, and of which her husband was the representative. When the Maltese rose against the French, and invoked the assistance of Great Britain, they applied to Naples for corn, and declared that they must give up the contest, unless they were furnished with an immediate supply of provisions. In this critical situation of affairs, Lady Hamilton interceded with the queen, and her majesty immediately purchased out of her own private purse, two feluccas laden with corn, which were expedited the very day after the arrival of the deputies. There were many other occasions in which Lady Hamilton rendered important services to her country, and to the great cause in which Great Britain was at the time engaged; and all without costing the nation a single ducat. The Emperor Paul of Russia, on account of the timely assistance Lady Hamilton had obtained for the Maltese, proposed that she should be decorated with the cross of the ancient order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Mrs. Trimmer.

In a literary party at the house of Sir Joshua Reynolds, a dispute occurred respecting a passage in the 'Paradise Lost,' which could not be decided without reference to the poem itself. Mr. Kirby of Ipswich, known for his work on the 'Perspective of Architect-

ture,' who, as well as his daughter, afterwards celebrated under the name of Mrs. Trimmer, was present, enquired if she had not the book in her pocket, it being, as he knew, a great favourite with the young lady, and almost constantly in her hands. The book was accordingly produced, and opened at the disputed part. Dr. Johnson was so struck with a girl of her tender years making so grave a work her pocket companion, and likewise with the modesty of her behaviour on the occasion, that he invited her the next day to his house, presented her with a copy of his 'Rambler,' and ever after treated her with the greatest consideration.

After Miss Kirby's marriage to Mr. Trimmer, she presented a splendid example of attention to domestic duties. She used to say, that as soon as she became a mother, her thoughts were turned so entirely to the subject of education, that she scarcely read a book upon any other topic, and believed she almost wearied her friends, by making it so frequently the subject of conversation. Having experienced the greatest success in her plan of educating her own family, she was inspired with a wish of extending the benefit of it to others; and was thus first induced to appear before the world as an author. Her 'Easy Introduction to the Knowledge of Nature,' soon became very popular, and still keeps its place in schools and private families. The design of it is to open the minds of children to a variety of information, to induce them to make observations on the works of nature, and to lead them up to the universal Parent, the Creator of this world, and of all things in it.

Virtue Rewarded.

In the year 1773, Peter Burrell, Esq., of Beckenham, in Kent, whose health was rapidly declining, was advised by his physicians to go to Spa for the recovery of his health. His daughters feared that those who had only motives entirely mercenary, would not pay him that attention which he might expect from those who, from duty and affection united, would feel the greatest pleasure in ministering to his ease and comfort; they, therefore, resolved to accompany him. They proved that it was not a spirit of dissipation and gaiety that led them to Spa, for they were not to be seen in any of the gay and fashionable circles; they were never out of their father's company, and never stirred from home except to attend him, either to take the air or drink the waters; in a word, they lived a most recluse life in the midst of a town, then the resort of the most illustrious and fashionable personages of Europe.

This exemplary attention to their father, procured these three amiable sisters the admiration of all the English at Spa, and was the cause of their elevation to that rank in life, to which their merits gave them so just a title. They all were married to noblemen; one to the Earl of Beverley; another to the

Duke of Hamilton, and afterwards to the Marquess of Exeter; and a third to the Duke of Northumberland. And it is justice to them to say, that they reflected honour on their rank, rather than derived any from it.

Intrepid Enterprise.

It was to a woman that Europe was first indebted for the introduction of inoculation for the smallpox, originally a benefit of the greatest consequence. When Lady Mary Wortley Montague resided at Constantinople with her husband, who was ambassador to the Ottoman court, the practice of inoculation was universal throughout the Turkish dominions. Lady Mary examined into the practice with such attention, as to become perfectly satisfied of its efficacy, and gave the most intrepid and convincing proof of her belief, in 1717, by inoculating her own son, who was then about three years of age. Mr. Maitland, who had attended the embassy in a medical character, first endeavoured to establish the practice in London, and was encouraged by Lady Mary's patronage. In 1721, the experiment was successfully tried on some criminals. With so much ardour did Lady Mary on her return enforce this salutary innovation among mothers of her own rank, that, as we find in her letters, much of her time was necessarily dedicated to various consultations, and to the superintendence of the success of her plan. In 1722, she had a daughter of six years old inoculated, who was afterwards Countess of Bute; and in a short time, the children of the royal family, that had not had the smallpox, underwent the same operation with success; the nobility soon followed the example, and the practice thus gradually extended among all ranks, and to all countries, in spite of many strong prejudices which it had to encounter.

Mrs. Astell.

When the Rev. John Norris published his 'Practical Discourses upon Divine Subjects,' several letters passed between him and the learned Mrs. Mary Astell, on the Love of God, which, at the request of Mr. Norris, she suffered him to publish, but without her name. For this concealment, however, there was but little occasion; the letters are excellent, and do equal credit to her genius and piety. Having often observed and lamented the defects in the education of her sex, which she said were the principal cause of their running into so many follies and improprieties, she published an ingenious treatise, entitled, '*A serious Proposal to the Ladies, for the advancement of their true and greatest interest.*' &c. And some time after, a second part, under the same title, with this addition, 'wherein a method is offered for the improvement of their minds.'

Both these performances were published together in 1696, and had, in some measure,

the desired effect. The scheme, indeed, in her proposal seemed so rational, that a certain opulent lady, supposed to be the queen, intended to have given £10,000 towards erecting a sort of college for the education and improvement of the female sex, and as a retreat to those ladies who preferred retirement and study to the noise and hurry of the world. Bishop Burnet, hearing of the design, went to the lady, and powerfully remonstrated against it, telling her it would look like paving the way for popish orders, and that it would be reputed a nunnery, in consequence of which the design was relinquished.

About seven years after, she printed an 'Essay and Defence of the Female Sex; in a Letter to a Lady, written by a Lady.' These publications did not prevent her from being as intent on her studies as ever; and when she accidentally saw needless visitors coming, whom she knew to be incapable of conversing on useful subjects, instead of ordering herself to be denied, she used to look out at the window, and jestingly tell them, 'Mrs. Astell is not at home.'

In 1700, Mrs. Astell published a book, entitled, 'Reflections on Marriage,' occasioned, as it is said, by a disappointment she experienced in a marriage contract with an eminent clergyman. However that might be, in the next edition of her book, 1705, she added a preface in answer to some objections, which, perhaps, is the strongest defence that ever appeared in print, of the rights and abilities of her own sex.

Mrs. Astell, although living and conversing with the fashionable world, led a pious life; generally calm and serene, and her deportment and conversation were highly entertaining and social. She used to say, the good Christian only has reason, and he always ought to be cheerful, and that dejected looks and melancholy airs were very unseemly in a Christian. But though she was easy and affable to others, she was severe towards herself. She was abstemious in a very great degree, frequently living many days together on bread and water, and at other times, when at home, rarely eat any dinner till night, and then sparingly. She would frequently say abstinence was her best physic, and that those who indulge themselves in eating and drinking, could not be so well disposed or prepared, either for study, or the regular and devout service of their Creator.

When she was confined to her bed by a gradual decay, and the time of her dissolution drew near, she ordered her shroud and coffin to be made, and brought to her bedside, and there to remain in her view as a constant memento of her approaching fate, and to keep her mind fixed on proper contemplations.

Lady M. W. Montague and Pope.

Soon after Lady Mary Wortley Montague's return from Constantinople, she was solicited by Mr. Pope to fix her summer residence at

Twickenham, with which she complied, and mutual admiration seemed at first to knit these kindred geniuses in indissoluble bonds. A short time, however, proved that their friendship was not superhuman. Jealousy of her talents, and a difference in political sentiments, appear to have been the primary causes of that dislike, which soon manifested itself without ceremony and without delicacy. Lady Mary was attached to the Walpole administration and principles. Pope hated the Whigs, and was at no pains to conceal his aversion in conversation or writing. What was worse, Lady Mary had for some time omitted to consult him on any new poetical production; and even when he had been formerly very free with his emendations, was wont to say, 'Come, no touching, Pope, for what is good the world will give to you, and leave the bad for me;' and she was well aware that he disingenuously encouraged that idea. But the more immediate cause of their implacability was a satire, in the form of a pastoral, entitled, 'Town Eclogues.' These were some of Lady Mary's earliest poetical attempts, and had been written previous to her leaving England. After her return, they were communicated to a favoured few, and no doubt relished, from their supposed or real personal allusions. Both Pope and Gay suggested many additions and alterations, which were certainly not adopted by Lady Mary; and as copies, including their corrections, were found among the papers of these poets, their editors have attributed three out of six to them. The 'Basset Table' and the 'Drawing Room' are given to Pope, and the 'Toilet' to Gay. The publication, however, of these poems, in the name of Pope, by Curl, a bookseller who hesitated at nothing mean or infamous, appears to have put a final stop to all intercourse between Pope and Lady Mary.

'Irritated,' says one of her biographers, 'by Pope's ceaseless petulance, and disgusted by his subterfuge, she now retired totally from his society, and certainly did not abstain from sarcastic observations, which were always repeated to him. The angry bard retaliated in the most gross and public manner against her and her friend, Lord Hervey. Of this controversy, it may be sufficient to observe, that Dr. Warton and Dr. Johnson both agree in condemning the prevarication with which Pope evaded every direct charge of his ungrateful behaviour to those whose patronage he had once servilely solicited; and even his panegyrical commentator, Dr. Warburton, confesses that there were allegations against him, which 'he was not quite clear of.'

Mrs. Thicknesse.

In the beginning of the French Revolution, Mrs. Thicknesse, the once celebrated Miss Forde, and then the widow of Governor Thicknesse, was arrested, with several other English, and confined in the convent of the Ursulines at Boulogne. Their treatment at first was tolerable; but no sooner did the

system of terror prevail, and Robespierre rule France with the guillotine, than they were consigned to the superintendence of the inhuman Joseph le Bon, and closely and rigorously confined.

When they had one day seen a waggon, filled with nobles, quit the jail for execution, it was suddenly intimated to the English prisoners, that they were to be transferred to the *Annunciate*, the front windows of which were closed. Mrs. Thicknesse soon ascertained that this was the prelude of death; she interceded with the magistrates, and obtained a delay of the sentence for a few hours. The respite saved them; for, in the meantime, telegraphic intelligence was received, that Robespierre and his guilty associates had been dragged to that scaffold to which they had consigned thousands.

The treatment of the English prisoners was now ameliorated, and that of Mrs. Thicknesse in particular. A decree having been passed that all such as could gain a livelihood by their labour should be liberated, she instantly sent specimens of her talents, consisting of manuscript music, drawings, and literature, to the local authorities. Here some difficulty occurred at first, as the French could not conceive how the widow of a governor and the mother (in law) of a peer, whom they considered as one of the nobility herself, and therefore *suspected*, could be included in the class entitled to the benefit of the decree, but Dumont, who was at the head of the commission, interposed, and her liberation was effected.

Miss Burney.

Miss Burney, afterwards Madamed'Arblay, wrote her celebrated novel of 'Evelina' when only seventeen years of age, and published it without the knowledge of her father, who, having occasion to visit the metropolis, soon after it had issued from the press, purchased it as the work then most popular, and most likely to prove an acceptable treat to his family.

When Dr. Burney had concluded his business in town he went to Chessington, the seat of Mr. Crisp, where his family was on a visit. He had scarcely dismounted and entered the parlour, when the customary question of 'What news?' was rapidly addressed to him by the several personages of his little party. 'Nothing,' said the worthy doctor, 'but a great deal of noise about a novel which I have brought you.'

When the book was produced and its title read, the surprised and conscious Miss Burney turned away her face to conceal the blushes and delighted confusion which otherwise would have betrayed her secret, but the rustle which usually attends the arrival of a friend in the country, where the monotonous and peaceful tenor of life is agreeably disturbed by such a change, prevented the curious and happy group from observing the agitation of their sister. After dinner Mr.

Crisp proposed that the book should be read. This was done with all due rapidity, when the gratifying comments made during its progress, and the acclamations which attended its conclusion, ratified the approbation of the public. The amiable author, whose anxiety and pleasure could with difficulty be concealed, was at length overcome by the delicious feelings of her heart; she burst into tears, and throwing herself on her father's neck, avowed herself the author of 'Evelina.' The joy and surprise of her sisters, and still more of her father, cannot easily be expressed. Dr. Burney, conscious as he was of the talents of his daughter, never thought that such maturity of observation and judgment, such facility of imagination and chasteness of style, could have been displayed by a girl of seventeen, by one who appeared a mere infant in artlessness and inexperience, and whose deep seclusion from the world had excluded her from all visual knowledge of its ways.

Miss Linwood.

The ladies of Great Britain may boast, in the person of Miss Linwood, of an example of the force and energy of the female mind free from any of those ungraceful manners which have in some cases accompanied strength of genius in woman. Miss Linwood has awaked from its long sleep the art which gave birth to painting, and the needle in her hands has become a formidable rival to the pencil. She has realized those splendid wonders that were recorded by Homer and other Greek and Latin poets, 'when purpled hangings clothed the palace walls.' For although various charming specimens of needlework have been produced by some of her predecessors, yet to Miss Linwood was reserved the pre-eminent distinction of executing an entire collection, which, from its magnitude and uncommon excellence, is a monument of her genius, industry, and perseverance, surpassing in extent the fabled labours of Penelope at her procrastinated web.

It was in the year 1782 that a friend sent Miss Linwood a large collection of engravings, in various styles, which were left with no other view than that of affording her a few days' amusement. Inspecting them with the eye of genius, she conceived that the force of engraving might be united with the softness of mezzotinto, and unacquainted with the arts by which either were produced; she had no instrument but her needle with which to make the experiment. With that she endeavoured to realize her first idea, by copying such prints as struck her attention with roivings of black and puce-coloured silk upon white sarsenet. The needle in her hands became like the spear of Ithuriel, she but touched her ground-work and her figures assumed form and started into life.

Encouraged by the applause bestowed upon her first efforts, she made copies of a still larger size, one of which was presented to the

Empress of Russia, who expressed the highest admiration of the performance, and had it placed in a favourite situation in the imperial palace.

The first attempt made to imitate paintings was in 1785, and Miss Linwood so far succeeded that in 1786 she submitted to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c., the St. Peter, from Guido; the head of Leah, from Sir Joshua Reynolds; and a Hare, from the Houghton collection. For these the society voted her a medal, on which, between two branches of laurel, is engraven, 'Excellent imitation of pictures in needlework.' From that period, Miss Linwood made great additions to her collection, and in the year 1789 she copied the *Salvator Mundi* of Guido, in the collection of the Marquess of Exeter, in so exquisite a manner that she was offered the immense sum of three thousand guineas for that performance alone.

As the regulations of the Royal Academy exclude copies of all kinds, and everything wrought by the needle, Miss Linwood had no other way to the public but by an exhibition, and her admirable collection, which had received the highest eulogies from Sir Joshua Reynolds and Mr. West, was exhibited in Hanover Square, and was, during the first season of a few months only, attended by forty thousand visitors. This collection, now exhibiting in Leicester Square, and which is receiving continual accessions, is become one of the permanent, and certainly one of the most curious and splendid exhibitions of the metropolis.

Hon. Mrs. Damer.

Though many ladies have attained a high rank in the sister arts of poetry and painting, yet very few indeed have attempted to tread in the steps of a Phidias or a Praxiteles. Some ladies, however, have cultivated the art of sculpture, and none more successfully than the Hon. Mrs. Damer, who has brought into mimic life those exquisite busts, which form the most valuable ornaments of Strawberry Hill (the once classical seat of Horace Walpole, who bequeathed it to Mrs. Damer): the noble statue of King George the Third, which formerly graced the Leverian Museum; with the bust of Sir Joseph Banks, and her own exquisite statue, now in the British Museum. The exhibition at the Royal Academy has often been enriched by the productions of her chisel; and if there had not been a positive decree of the Academy, for the exclusion of female artists from being members of that body, Mrs. Damer would long ago have received the highest honours in its power to bestow. But the honours which were denied to Mrs. Damer by the Royal Academy, were amply recompensed by the warm suffrages of fame, which she received from other contemporary societies of talent and reputation; for wherever taste, elegance, and accomplishments were prized, there did Mrs. Damer find admirers and friends.

Lady Hester Stanhope.

This lady, with the most romantic contempt for dangers or hardships, devotes her fortune and her life to travelling abroad. When she was at Mar Elias, near Sidon, in Syria, in 1816, she received a visit from Colonel Buin, of the French Engineers, who, on the abdication of Bonaparte, determined on travelling to the east. The colonel had just returned from visiting the Temple of Jupiter Ammon, and Lady Hester advised him to avoid going into the mountains of the Arsarie, near Latikea, which he promised. An over eager curiosity, however, made him break his pledge; he set forward, and was soon murdered.

Lady Hester on hearing of his death, applied to the French Ambassador, but he would not interfere, and the consuls in Syria had no power. Determined, however, as she said, to 'revenge the death of her poor friend,' Lady Hester obtained a body of five hundred men from the Pacha of Acre and Damascus, and accompanying them, they, after great search, discovered the murderers, who were taken and executed.

The Countess of Desmond.

Catherine Fitzgerald, who married the twelfth Earl of Desmond, in the reign of Edward IV., and danced with the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III., lived to the very extraordinary age of one hundred and forty-five years. The beauty and vivacity of the Countess of Desmond, rendered her an object of general admiration, at a period of life when all other women are considered unfit for society; and historians confidently assert that she had passed her hundredth year before she left off dancing and mixing in the gayest circles. She resided at Inchiquin, and held her jointure from many successive Earls of Desmond, until the family being by an attainer deprived of the estate, she was reduced to poverty; but feeling few of the infirmities of age, although then one hundred and forty years old, she crossed the channel to Bristol, and travelling up to London, laid her case before King James the First, and solicited relief, which she obtained.

Madame de Maintenon.

This lady, when very young, was, in order to escape a life of dependence on her relations, induced to marry the old Abbé Scarron. She lived with him many years, which, Voltaire says, were the happiest of her life; but when he died in 1660, she found herself as indigent as she was before her marriage. Her friends, indeed, endeavoured to get her husband's pension continued to her, and presented so many petitions to the king about her, all beginning with, 'The widow Scarron most humbly prays your majesty,' &c. that he was quite weary of them, and has been heard to

exclaim, 'Must I always be annoyed by the widow Scarron?' At length, however, through the recommendation of Madame de Montespan, the king settled a much larger pension on her, with a handsome apology for making her wait so long. He afterwards made choice of her to superintend the education of the young Duke of Maine; and the letters she wrote on this occasion charmed the king, and were the origin of her advancement. Her personal merit effected all the rest. The king bought her the estate of Maintenon, and called her publicly Madame de Maintenon; and towards the latter end of the year 1685, his majesty married her. The piety with which she inspired the king to make her a wife, became by degrees a settled disposition of mind. She prevailed on Louis to found a religious community at St. Cyr, for the education of three hundred ladies of quality; and here she frequently retired from that melancholy, of which she complains so pathetically in one of her letters, and which few ladies will suppose she could be liable to in so elevated a situation; but as Voltaire says, if anything could show the vanity of ambition, it would be this letter.

On the death of the king in 1715, Madame de Maintenon wholly retired to St. Cyr, and spent the rest of her days in acts of devotion. What is most surprising is, that the king, her husband, left no certain provision for her, recommending her only to the Duke of Orleans. She would, however, only accept a pension of 80,000 livres, which was continued to her until her death in 1719.

Mrs. Charlotte Smith.

This lady is not more celebrated for her literary talents, than for her fortitude in bearing those vicissitudes of fortune to which she was subjected. It was during the imprisonment of her husband, who was the victim of misfortune and of treachery, that she was first induced to turn her thoughts towards the press, and to try whether pecuniary advantage could not be obtained by printing those little pieces of poetry which she had composed in her walks. Her first application to a bookseller was received coolly; but she was urged to try another, who published her volume of poems, the success of which relieved her from that solicitude for her children which had oppressed her spirits, and enabled her to look forward with fortitude to the period which should disembarass the affairs of her husband. Her sensations on her husband's liberation from prison, which took place soon after, are thus pathetically described by his amiable wife.

'It was on the 2nd day of July that we commenced our journey. For more than a month, I had shared the restraint of my husband in a prison, amidst scenes of misery, of vice, and even terror. Two attempts had, since my residence among them, been made by the prisoners to procure their liberation by blowing up the walls of the house. Through-

out the night appointed for this enterprise, I remained dressed, watching at the window, and expecting every moment to witness contention and bloodshed, or perhaps to be overwhelmed by the projected explosion. After such scenes, and such apprehensions, how deliciously soothing to my mind and spirits was the soft pure air of the summer's morning, breathing over the heaths of Surrey! My native hills at length burst upon my view. I beheld once more the fields where I had passed my happiest days; and amidst the perfumed turf, with which one of those fields was strewn, perceived, with delight, the beloved group from whom I had been so long divided, and for whose fate my affections were ever anxious. The transports of this meeting were too much for my exhausted spirit. After all my sufferings, I began to hope I might taste content, or experience at least a respite from calamity.'

The interval of joy and hope was, however, but transient; new persecutions awaited Mr. Smith, and new sufferings his amiable wife, who, notwithstanding the privations and difficulties she had to encounter, still found a resource in her own genius and industry, and contributed, by her pen, to save her family, until the affairs of her husband being finally settled, she had the happiness of seeing her children restored to their rights.

Indian Virtue.

A married woman of the Shawanee Indians made this beautiful reply to a man whom she met in the woods, and who implored her to love and look on him. 'Oulaman, my husband,' said she, '*who is for ever before my eyes*, hinders me from seeing you, or any other person.'

The Queen of Prussia.

The wife of Frederic William the Third of Prussia, of whom Bonaparte said that she was the finest woman in the world, was distinguished for her beauty, her virtue, and her sufferings. Had she lived in more tranquil times, we should probably only have known her as a beautiful and engaging woman; but the days were eventful in which her lot was cast; she was placed in most trying circumstances, and her conduct throughout the whole of her career will bear a comparison with that of the greatest of her sex, either in ancient or modern times.

When the armistice between Bonaparte and the allied armies which preceded the peace of Tilsit was agreed upon, Prussia sought a negotiation for peace; but the rancour of Bonaparte towards that power was such, that the king refused to humble himself before the Emperor of the French, who, having been accustomed to such homage from others, did not conceal his mortification. In this state of things the Prussian ministers thought that the presence of the queen might have the

effect of smoothing the way to negotiation, and of rendering more favourable the conditions of peace. She, in consequence, immediately set out on her journey to the headquarters, with all that devotion and that readiness of disposition, which led her in every situation of life to strive to fulfil to the utmost the duties of her station.

As soon as she had alighted at the lodgings prepared for her, Napoleon waited upon her. To receive with dignity a first visit of this kind, was to one in the queen's situation no easy task. She received her visitor, however, with great judgment, and that taste which belongs alone to superior minds. It was some time before the queen mentioned to him that the object of her journey was to request from him more favourable terms of peace; an object, however, in which she failed, since Napoleon was inexorable on that point. The French Emperor, who adverted to various points in the course of their conversation, asked the queen, 'But how could you think of entering upon a war with me?' to which her majesty replied? 'Sir, some allowance must be made for us, if the glory of the Great Frederick has led us astray in regard to the actual state of our resources, even if we had been deceived in regard to them.'

After a stay of two or three days, which the queen partly passed in Tilsit, she returned to Memel, and peace was signed between Prussia and France, which placed the latter power on the highest pinnacle of greatness. This was a severe blow to the queen, who thus expressed herself in a letter which she wrote very shortly afterwards. 'Peace is concluded; but at how painful a price! Our frontiers will not henceforth extend beyond the Elbe; the king, however, after all, has proved himself a greater man than his adversary. After the battle of Eylau, he could have made an advantageous peace; but then he must, by so doing, have voluntarily entered into terms with the evil spirit, and become connected with him. Now, it is true, he has been compelled by necessity to negotiate with his enemy, but no alliance has taken place between them. This will one day or other bring a blessing upon Prussia. After Eylau, also, he would have been compelled to desert a very faithful ally: that would he not do. Again, I say, the king's just dealing will bring good fortune to Prussia; this is my firm belief.'

The queen did not conceal how painfully she felt the peace of Tilsit, which gave Magdeburgh to France. She often called to her recollection that part of the English history which states that Queen Mary, after the taking of Calais, which had so long been an appendage to the English crown, and which had often been attempted in vain by the Duke of Guise, during her reign, and its subsequent cession to France, was accustomed to say, 'That if her heart could be opened, the name of Calais would be found traced there in characters of blood.' The same might be said of the Queen of Prussia in regard to Magdeburgh.

French and English Women.

National prejudices may be fairly allowed to prevent the natives of England and France from giving a strictly impartial opinion of each other; this objection, however, cannot be applied to the Persian traveller, Mirza Abu Taleb Khan, who, after making the tour of Europe in the years 1799-1803, draws the following comparison between the women of England and of France.

'The French women are tall and more corpulent than the English, but bear no comparison with respect to beauty. They want the simplicity, modesty, and graceful motions of the English damsels. Their fashion of dressing the hair was to me very disgusting, as it exactly resembled the mode practised by the common dancing girls in India. They were also painted to an excessive degree, were very forward, and great talkers. Although I am by nature sensitive, and easily affected at the sight of beauty, and visited every public place in Paris, I never met with a French woman who interested me.'

Mademoiselle de L'Espinasse.

Perhaps a higher eulogy was never passed on a woman, than that by Marmontel on Mademoiselle de L'Espinasse. It must be acknowledged, however, that Madame de Genlis speaks less favourably of this lady.

'While speaking of the Graces (says Marmontel), let me mention a person, who, in her talents and language, displayed their richest gifts, and who was the only female admitted by Madame Geoffrin to the dinner parties of her men of letters; I mean the friend of M. d'Alembert, Mademoiselle de L'Espinasse, an astonishing compound of decorum, reason, wisdom, with talents the most lively, a soul the most ardent, and an imagination the most inflammable, which has existed since the days of Sappho. The fire which circulated in her veins, and which imparted to her mind its charms, its brilliancy, and its activity, consumed her before its time. I here remark the place she occupied at our dinners, to which her presence gave an inexpressible interest. Continually the object of attention, whether she listened or whether she spoke (and no one spoke better), without coquetry, she inspired an innocent wish to please her; without prudery, she made us feel how far the freedom of conversation might be carried, without alarming modesty, or passing the limits of decorum.'

Duchess of Devonshire.

Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, who so often gave the tone to fashion, by her own example extirpated that vicious, and almost inhuman practice of employing mercenary nurses, which then so much prevailed in high life; and she, who for years had presided

over the world of dress, feeling for her infant child, that

'No voice so sweet attunes his cares to rest,
So soft no pillow as his mother's breast,'

introduced a practice which was intimately connected with the dearest ties of affection; she suckled her own children, and what is more, even made the duty a prevalent fashion.

The Duchess of Devonshire possessed a highly cultivated taste for poetry and the fine arts, and was universally allowed to be one of the most accomplished females of the age; she was, at the same time, humane and patriotic. Gibbon, the historian, in his memoirs, mentions finding her Grace and some of her female friends employed at Devonshire House, in making flannel waistcoats for the soldiers during the war; and she was an active patroness of the volunteer system, when Great Britain was threatened with invasion.

The Duchess of Devonshire, attached by birth and alliance to the Whig party, frequently interested herself ardently and successfully on behalf of Mr. Fox, during his elections for Westminster; and numerous anecdotes are related of her Grace, and of her skill in obtaining votes for her friend. It was in allusion to this, that the following epigram was written:

'Array'd in matchless beauty, Devon's fair,
In Fox's favour takes a zealous part:
But oh! where'er the *pilferer* comes, beware,
She supplicates a vote, and steals a heart.'

Miss Seward.

The father of Miss Seward, whose poetic talents were by no means inconsiderable, fancying that he saw the dawn of genius in the infancy of his daughter, devoted himself to its culture. When she was only three years old, and before she could read, he had taught her to lisp the 'Allegro' of Milton; and in her ninth year, she was able to repeat the first three books of 'Paradise Lost,' with that variety of accent necessary to give grace and effect to the harmonies of that poem. She has been heard to say, that its sublime passages and the sublime grandeur and beauty of its numbers, often filled her infant eyes with tears of delight, while she committed a portion of them to memory.

From admiring poetry, she soon began to write it; and Dr. Darwin having seen some pieces of her composition, doubted whether she had not received some parental assistance. In order to put this to the test, he called one evening when he knew her father was from home, and requested Miss Seward to favour him with a few lines on any subject, adding, 'let me write a stanza, and you finish it;' he accordingly wrote one, and left it with her. On the following morning, she presented him with a poem, which convinced him of her merit, and the injustice of his suspicions as to her talents.

On the death of her only sister, a few years

after, she wrote an elegy as she was sitting in the garden. Other poems flowed from her pen; but it was not until she had become acquainted with Lady Miller of Bath Easton, and contended for the prize bestowed by the poetic institution at that villa, that any of her productions found their way to the press; but the Rubicon once passed, she proceeded rapidly in her course, and soon reached the highest rank among the female poets of this country.

Mrs. Francis Sheridan.

This lady, who had the honour of giving birth to that eloquent orator and able dramatist, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, was also distinguished for her literary attainments. Her first literary performance was a pamphlet, during the time in which Mr. Sheridan was engaged in a theatrical dispute with the public in Dublin. The pamphlet being well written, and rendering Mr. Sheridan an essential service, he became anxious to know to whom he was indebted for so able a defence: after some inquiries he found this out, got introduced to the lady, and soon afterwards married her.

Madame Elizabeth.

When the Parisian mob burst into the palace on the 20th of June, 1792, Madame Elizabeth, the sister of Louis XIV., ran into the king's apartment. The mob called for the queen under a very approbrious epithet, and were about to seize Elizabeth by mistake, when an attendant exclaimed, 'This is not the queen.' Madame Elizabeth, who was waiting to be dragged away at the mercy of an infuriated populace, turned round and said to the indiscreet servant, 'for the love God do not undeceive them.' The poor queen was then forced away and hurried to a scaffold; nor was it long before the amiable Madame Elizabeth shared the fate of her unfortunate brother and sister.

Madame de Sevigné.

The intellectual acquirements of this lady are well known to every admirer of French literature; and her letters to her daughter, the Countess de Grignan, are regarded as the best models of epistolary composition. 'One day,' says Menage, 'I had hold of one of Madame de Sevigné's hands betwixt mine. Upon her drawing it away, N. Pelletier, who was present, said, "Menage, with all your talents, that is the finest work that ever came from your hands."'

Mrs. Hannah More.

The lady to whom these *Anecdotes of Woman* are inscribed, has long been considered one of the brightest ornaments of her

sex, who by her precepts and her example, has rendered the most important services to the cause of religion and of virtue; and, notwithstanding the extent of her literary labours, we believe she will leave

'No line which, dying, she would wish to blot.'

Mrs. Hannah More, who was the fourth of five maiden sisters, discovered a taste for literature at a very early age; she improved her mind during her leisure hours, by reading, and soon exhausted not only the little paternal library of her family, but all the books she could borrow from her friends in the village of Hanham, near Bristol, where her sisters for some time kept a little school, which became so celebrated, that at length several ladies of fortune prevailed on them to remove to Bristol. In 1765, they opened a boarding school in that city, which soon became the most distinguished seminary in England, where many females of rank received their education.

The first literary production of Mrs. More was a poem entitled, 'the Search after Happiness,' which was so favourably received, as to urge her to a further exertion of her talents; she soon afterwards directed her attention to dramatic poetry, and produced a tragedy entitled, *Fatal Falsehood*, which was tolerably well received; but it was not so successful as her *Percy*, which met with unusual applause; but perhaps the most popular of all her pieces were her 'Sacred Dramas,' in which she has dramatised in a very natural and impressive manner, some of the most instructive narratives in the sacred history. These were first written for her sisters' pupils, by whom they were performed or read. They excited so much interest, as to occasion numerous solicitations that they might be printed. The public opinion but echoed back the sentiments of private friendship, and these dramas are now frequently performed in some of the most respectable schools in the kingdom.

In 1788, Mrs. More published a small volume, entitled 'Thoughts on the Manners of the Great,' which attracted an uncommon degree of curiosity, on account of the great ability with which it attacked the increasing licentiousness of the age. This work, which was published anonymously, was attributed successively to the Bishop of London, Mr. Wilberforce, and several other distinguished writers.

The Misses More having resigned their boarding school, retired to a neat cottage which they had purchased with the joint fruits of their industry, at the foot of the

Mendip hills. Here they were distinguished for their benevolence; they instituted a Sunday School, which they superintended; and afterwards established nine others in the adjacent villages, in which eight hundred children were educated, and a pleasing reformation accomplished.

Among the many exemplary acts of beneficence for which they were celebrated, they educated gratuitously a charming girl, the daughter of a poor clergyman, born deaf and dumb, who with pleasing vivacity used to indicate the five sisters by the five fingers of her hand; and describe by sprightly signs her meaning concerning each of them.

To Mrs. Hannah More also belonged the credit of drawing Anne Yearsley, the poetical milkwoman, from her obscurity, into public notice and favour. When she first discovered the talent of this extraordinary woman, she immediately began to exert her benevolence, and by her unwearied assiduity, procured a liberal subscription to the poems of this child of nature. She also wrote an interesting account of Mrs. Yearsley in a letter to Mrs. Montague, and by her exertions raised a sufficient sum to place her in a situation more suitable to her genius.

Another phenomenon in that neighbourhood also attracted Mrs. More's curiosity and benevolence. A strange female, of elegant figure and manners, had been seen for some considerable time hovering about the fields near Frenchhay and Hanham, of whom no particulars could be discovered. She thankfully received any humble food that was presented to her by the peasants, but always took up her night's lodging under a hay-stack. Several attempts were made to ascertain the place of her birth, but without success. It was evident that she was a foreigner, and strange conjectures were formed respecting her country and connexions. The humanity of Mrs. More was roused upon the occasion; she wrote an account of the 'Maid of the Hay-stack,' which excited much interest, and was copied into nearly all the periodical publications of the day; and it was principally through Mrs. More's exertions that the unfortunate stranger found a comfortable asylum in the house of Mr. Henderson in the neighbourhood.

Mrs. More carries into age the same active spirit of benevolence; the same vigour of intellect; and the same zeal for the cause of virtue and religion, that have distinguished her through life, and rendered her one of the brightest ornaments of society, and a model for all that is amiable in woman.



ANECDOTES OF DOMESTIC LIFE.

'WHENEVER we step out of domestic life, in search of felicity, we come back again disappointed, tired, and chagrined. One day passed under our own roof, with our friends and our family, is worth a thousand in another place.'—EARL OF ORRERY.

Slavery of Mothers in the Early Ages.

In the early ages of society, the women of a family were usually treated as the servants or slaves of the men. Nothing could exceed the dependence and subjection in which they were kept, or the toil and drudgery which they were forced to undergo. They were forced to labour without intermission, in digging roots, in drawing water, in carrying wood, in milking the cattle, in dressing the victuals, in rearing the children, and in those other kinds of work, which their situation had taught them to perform. The husband, when he was not engaged in some warlike exercise, indulged himself in idleness; and upon his wife devolved the whole burden of his domestic affairs. He disdained to assist her in any of these servile employments; she slept in a different bed, and was seldom permitted to have any conversation or correspondence with him.

Among the negroes, on the slave coast, the wife is never allowed to appear before the husband, or to receive anything from his hands, without putting herself into a kneeling posture.

In the empire of Congo, and among the greater part of those nations which inhabit the southern coast of Africa, the women of a family are seldom permitted to eat along with the men. The husband sits alone at table, and his wife commonly stands at his back, to guard him from the flies, to serve him with his victuals, or to furnish him with his pipe and his tobacco. After he has finished his meal, she is allowed to eat what remains, but without sitting down, which it seems would be inconsistent with the inferiority and subordination that is thought suitable to her sex. When a Hottentot and his wife have come into the service of an European, and are entertained under the same roof, the master is under the necessity of assigning to each of them a distinct portion of victuals, which, out of regard to the general usage of their

country, they always eat at a distance from one another.

In the account which has been given by Commodore Byron, of the Indians of South America, we are told that 'the men exercise a most despotic authority over their wives, whom they consider in the same view as they do any other part of their property, and dispose of them accordingly; even their common treatment of them is cruel; for the toil and hazard of procuring food, lies entirely upon the women, yet they are not suffered to touch any part of it till the husband is satisfied, and then he assigns them their portion, which is generally very scanty, and such as he has not a stomach for himself.' The same author informs us, that he has observed a like arbitrary behaviour among many other nations of savages, with whom he has since been acquainted.

From the servile condition of the fair sex, in barbarous countries, they are rendered in a great measure incapable of property, and are supposed to have no share in the estate of that particular family in which they reside. Whatever has been acquired by her labour, is under the sole administration and disposal of those male relations and friends, by whom they are protected, and from whom they receive a precarious subsistence. Upon the death of a proprietor, the estate is continued in possession of his sons or transmitted to his other male relations; and his daughters are so far from being entitled to a share of the succession, that they are even considered as a part of the inheritance; which the heir is at liberty to dispose of, according to his pleasure.

At the Cape of Good Hope, in the kingdom of Benin, and in general upon the whole southern and western coasts of Africa, no female is ever admitted to the succession of any estate, either real or personal.

The same custom is said to be observed among the Tartars; and there is some reason to believe it was formerly established among all the inhabitants of Chaldea and Arabia,

Origin of some Nuptial Ceremonies.

The nuptial usages and phrases in use amongst the moderns, are chiefly of Roman origin. It was a rule among the Romans, that the bride should be brought to her husband with a covering or veil cast over her head; and hence the ceremony was called *nuptie*, from *nubo*, to veil.

The bridegroom gave to the bride a ring, which she was to wear ever after upon the fourth finger of her left hand. The Romans had an idea that there was a small artery which ran from that finger to the heart; and the wearing of the ring upon it was designed as an emblem of hearts united. The discoveries of the moderns in anatomy, have shown this supposition to be erroneous; but the custom of wedding with the ring, and wearing it on the fourth finger of the left hand, still survives.

When the woman was brought home to the house of her husband, she was preceded by five torches, which were intended to signify the need which married persons have of five deities—Jupiter, Juno, Venus, Suada, and Diana, or Lucina. When the woman was thus brought to the door, she then anointed the posts with oil; and from this ceremony obtained thereafter the name of *uxor*, or for the sake of euphony, *uxor*, whence our term *uxorious*.

A Happy Couple.

Pliny was one of the best husbands in the whole Roman empire; and if we may credit his descriptions, he had one of the best of women for his wife. He did not think it beneath him to treat his wife as a friend and counsellor, as well as a companion. In his letters to his wife, Calphurnia, when absent from her, he breathes the most ardent, and at the same time the most delicate, affection. How much he really loved his wife, we find, as far as words can express it, in the following letter to her aunt, Hispulla:—

‘As I remember the great affection which was between you and your excellent brother, and know you love his daughter as your own, so as not only to express the tenderness of the best of aunts, but even to supply that of the best of fathers, I am sure it will give you pleasure to hear that she proves worthy of her father, worthy of you, and of your and her ancestors. Her ingenuity is admirable; her frugality is extraordinary. She loves me, the surest pledge of her virtue; and adds to this a wonderful disposition to learning, which she has acquired from her affection to me. She reads my writings, studies them, and even gets them by heart. You would smile to see the concern she is in, when I have a cause to plead; and the joy she shows when it is over. She finds means to have the first news brought her of the success I met with in court, how I am heard, and what decree is made. If I recite anything in public, she

cannot refrain from placing herself privately in some corner, to hear; where, with the utmost delight, she feasts upon my applauses; sometimes she sings my verses, and accompanies them with the lute, without any master, except love, the best of instructors. From these instances I take the most certain omens of our perpetual and increasing happiness, since her affection is not founded on my youth or person, which must gradually decay; but she is in love with the immortal part of me—my glory and reputation. Nor indeed could less be expected from one who had the happiness to receive her education from you, who, in your house, was accustomed to everything that was virtuous and decent, and even began to love me on your recommendation. For as you had always the greatest respect for my mother, you were pleased, from my infancy, to form me, to commend me, and kindly to presage that I should be one day what my wife fancies I am; accept, therefore, our united thanks; mine, that you have bestowed her on me; and hers, that you have given me to her as a mutual grant of joy and felicity.’

Tomb of Two Lovers.

At Tarentum, there was to be seen, in the time of Valerius Maximus, a sepulchre, which was known by the name of the Tomb of the Two Lovers. It contained the remains of M. Plautius and his wife, Orestilla. Plautius had been sent by the senate of Rome, to conduct into Asia, a fleet of sixty ships, belonging to the confederates; he put on shore at Tarentum, where his wife, Orestilla, had agreed to meet him. While there, Orestilla took ill, and died. Her remains were placed on the funeral pile to be consumed, according to the manner of the Romans, and it only remained that the last offices should be performed, of anointing the dead body, and giving it a valedictory kiss. But this last adieu, Plautius was unable to take; preferring to have his ashes mingled with hers, to the pain of surviving her, he fell on his sword, and expired. His friends lifted him up, dressed as he was, and laying his body by that of his wife, burnt them together.

Fond Fathers.

The warlike Agesilaus was, within the walls of his own house, one of the most tender and playful of men. He used to join with his children in all their innocent gambols, and was once discovered by a friend, showing them how to ride upon a hobby-horse. When his friend expressed some surprise at beholding the great Agesilaus so employed, ‘Wait,’ said the hero, ‘till you are yourself a father, and if you then blame me, I give you liberty to proclaim this act of mine to all the world.’

The grave Socrates was once surprised in nearly a similar situation by Alcibiades, and made nearly the same answer to the scoffs of

that gay patrician. 'You have not,' said he, 'such reason as you imagine to laugh so, at a father playing with his child. You know nothing of that affection which parents have to their children; restrain your mirth till you have children of your own, when you will, perhaps, be found as ridiculous as I now seem to you to be.'

The elder Cato, in the busiest periods of his life, always found time to be present at the bathing and dressing of his son; and when he grew up, would not suffer him to have any other master than himself. Being once advised to resign the boy to the care of some learned servant, he replied, that 'He could not bear that any servant should pull his son by the ears, or that his son should be indebted for his learning and education to any other than himself.'

Charles the Great was so fond a father, that he never dined nor supped without his children at table: he went nowhere, but he took them along with him; and when he was asked why he did not marry his daughters, and send his sons abroad to see the world, his reply was, 'That he was sure he could not be able to bear their absence.'

Maternal Joy.

Some people admire the fortitude of the Spartan mothers, who could hear the news of the death of their children, slain in battle, not only without tears, but even with a kind of joy and satisfaction. 'For my part,' says Rollin, and most persons we think will agree with him, 'I should think it much better that nature should show herself more on such an occasion, and that the love of one's country should not utterly extinguish the sentiments of maternal tenderness.' The Roman mothers, though of as warlike a race as the Spartans, did not affect any such stoicism. When the Romans were overcome by Hannibal, at the battle of Thrasymene, and the news of that calamity was brought to Rome, the anxious multitude, men as well as women, flocked to the gates to learn the first tidings of their respective friends; and we are assured, by Valerius Maximus, that both the sorrow and joy of the women far exceeded that of the men. 'Here it was,' says he, 'that one woman meeting at the gate with her son, in safety, whom she had given up for dead, died of joy in his arms, as she embraced him. Another, having been erroneously informed that her son was slain, retired to her home overwhelmed with sorrow, and when, unexpectedly, she saw him come in, such was the transition of her feelings, to excessive joy, that she fell down and died.'

Mother of the Gracchi.

Two snakes found their way into the house of Titus Gracchus. The augurs pronounced that one of them must be killed, and the other allowed to escape; and that should the

male be the one suffered to escape, it would be a sure sign that Cornelia, the wife of Gracchus, would die before him; while, if the female was spared, it would indicate that Gracchus should die first. Never was there a more affectionate husband than Gracchus, and without a moment's hesitation he decided the fate of the snakes in the way favourable to the fate of his Cornelia. It happened that the prediction of the augurs was fulfilled. Cornelia was left a widow, with a family of twelve children, to the nurture and education of whom she devoted herself with an ardour that has acquired her the name of 'Illustrious,' among mothers. Such was her affection for them, and the reverence in which she held the memory of their father, that she refused every offer of a second matrimonial alliance, and rejected the hand even of Ptolemy, King of Egypt. 'The buried ashes of her husband,' says Valerius Maximus, very elegantly, 'seemed to lay so cold at her heart, that the splendour of a diadem, and all the pomp of a rich kingdom, were not able to warm it, so as to make it capable of receiving the impression of a new love.'

Only three out of her numerous family lived to years of maturity; one daughter, Sempronius, whom she married to the second Scipio Africanus; and two sons, Tiberius and Caius.

Filial Piety.

The great law of nature has implanted in every human breast, a disposition to love and revere those to whom we have been taught from our earliest infancy, to look up for every comfort, convenience, and pleasure in life. While we remain in a state of dependence on them, this impression continues in its full force; but certain it is, that it has a tendency to wear off, as we become masters of ourselves; and hence the propriety of those laws by which, in the institutions of different nations, it has been attempted to guard against a degeneracy into filial ingratitude and disobedience.

'Honour thy father and thy mother,' was the command of the Divine Author of the Jewish dispensation. 'That thy days may be long in the land,' is the peculiar reward which He promises to those who obey the solemn injunction. And as he has been pleased to express his approbation of a steady adherence to this law, by singular marks of favour, so also did he punish the breach of it by exemplary displeasure;—death was the only expiation for this offence.

Nor have the Jews been the only nation who have looked upon disobedience to parents, as worthy of capital punishment.

In China, let a son become ever so rich, and a father ever so poor, there is no submission, no point of obedience, that the latter cannot command, or that the former can refuse. The father is not only absolute master of his son's estate, but also of his children, who, whenever

they displease him, he may sell to strangers. When a father accuses his son before a mandarin, there needs no proof of his guilt, for they cannot believe that any father can be so unnatural as to bring a false accusation against his own son. But should a son be so insolent as to mock his father, or arrive at such a pitch of wickedness as to strike him, all the province where this shameful act of violence is committed, is alarmed; it even becomes the concern of the whole empire; the emperor himself judges the criminal. All the mandarins near the place, are turned out of their posts, especially those in the town where he lived, for having been so negligent in their instructions; and all the neighbours are reprimanded for neglecting, by former punishments, to put a stop to the wickedness of the criminal, before it arrived at such flagitiousness. With respect to the unhappy wretch himself, they cut him to a thousand pieces, burn his bones, raze the house in which he lived, as well as those houses that stand near it, and sow the ground with salt, as supposing that there must be some hopeless depravity of manners in a community to which such a monster belonged.

The filial duty is the same with the prince and the peasant in China; and the emperor, every New Year's Day, pays a particular homage to his mother in the palace, at which ceremony all the great officers of the state assist.

The Persians, according to Herodotus, held the crime of domestic rebellion, in nearly as much detestation as the Chinese, but they treated it after a more refined manner. They looked on the striking or slaying of a father, as an *impossible* offence; and when an action of the kind happened, adjudged that the offender could not be the son of the party injured or slain, but must have been superstitiously imposed on him as such.

Cicero observes that Solon, the wise legislator of Athens, had provided no law against parricide; and that being asked why he had not? he answered, 'That to make laws against, and ordain punishments for, a crime that had been never known or heard of, was the way to introduce it, rather than prevent it.'

In Rome, no less than six hundred years from the building of the city, had elapsed, before so much as a name for the crime of parricide was known among them. The punishment ordained for the first who stained his hands with the blood of the author of his being, was, that he should be scourged till he was flayed, then sewn up in a sack, together with a dog, a cock, a viper, and an ape, and so thrown headlong to the bottom of the sea.

It is a great stain on the character of the more recent ages of the world, that the crime should ever have become of less rare occurrence; yet in nothing, perhaps, have the ways of God to man, been more signally justified, than in the punishment which has sooner or later followed all deviations from filial love and duty. So proverbial, indeed, has this become, as to make any particular illustration

of the fact, wholly unnecessary. Be ours, therefore, the more pleasing task to record a few of the far more numerous instances, in which sons have done honour to human nature, by the honour which they have paid to the authors of their being.

The exploit which procured for Eneas the title of the Pious, is known to all who have read of the siege of Troy; that of the brothers Anapais and Amphinomus, which was altogether similar, is of less notoriety. In the 477th year before the Christian era, an eruption took place of Mount Etna, and the inhabitants of its vicinity were in the most imminent danger. Everyone hastened to load himself with what he valued most, and to fly from the spot. One aged couple alone, were too old and infirm to move; but Providence had blessed them with two affectionate sons, Anapais and Amphinomus, who conceiving justly, that they could save no more precious treasure than the lives of their parents, took them upon their shoulders, the one the father and the other the mother, and so carried them beyond the reach of danger. What Camerarius adds, partakes exceedingly of the marvellous; but though there is no occasion for believing it, it has enough of good feeling in it, to please the reader: 'It is an admirable thing,' he says, 'that God, in consideration of this piety, though in Pagans, did a miracle; for the monuments of all antiquity witness that the devouring flames stopped at the spectacle; and the fire wasting and broiling all about them, the only way through which these two good sons passed, was tapestried with fresh verdure, and called afterwards by posterity the "Field of the Pious."'

Epaminondas, the Theban general, being asked what was the most pleasant thing that had happened to him in the course of his whole life, replied, 'that he remembered nothing more pleasant than that he had achieved the Leuctrian victory, while his father and mother were yet alive to be pleased with the glory of their son.'

Pomponius Atticus, in making the funeral oration over the remains of his mother, protested that though he had lived with her sixty-seven years, he had never been reconciled to her. The audience seemed struck with surprise at such a declaration from one who was famed for his attachment to his mother. 'No,' continued Atticus, 'for in all that time there never happened the least jar betwixt us that needed reconciliation.'

The gallant Sertorius, though fond of a military life, and though in a good situation as general in Spain, which promised him a noble harvest of laurels, solicited permission from the Senate to return home, that he might once more enjoy the society of his mother. Before he could receive an answer to this application, news was brought to him that his mother was no more. Sertorius was so afflicted with the tidings that he shut himself up in his tent for seven days, during all which time he lay on the ground lamenting, and would not suffer even his most familiar friends to break in upon his sorrow.

The first gilded statue that ever was erected, either in Rome or in any part of Italy, was one by a son to the honour of a father: by M. Acilius Glabrio, a knight, in memory of the triumph which his father had achieved over Antiochus, at the Straits of Thermopylæ. It was erected in the Temple of Piety.

When our Edward the First was in the Holy Land, he received, successively, the news of the death of his only son, and of his father, Henry the Third. He took the first loss resignedly; but on the second, he was quite comfortless and dejected. When Charles, King of Sicily, expressed his surprise at this difference, Edward replied, 'God may send me more sons; but the death of a father is irrecoverable.'

Respect to Age.

'Dost thou not see, O Gaul,' says Morni, in one of the poems of Ossian, 'how the steps of my age are honoured? Morni moves forth, and the young meet him with reverence, and turn their eyes with silent joy on his course.'

The obligation to reverence old age is a necessary emanation from that duty which we owe to our parents. The youth who pays due honour to his own father will never treat despitefully the grey hairs of those who pass by his father's door, or enter within his threshold.

The Jewish lawgiver has made this duty the subject of a particular precept: 'See that thou rise up before the hoary man, and honour the face of the old man.' 'I am young,' says the son of Barachel, 'and ye are very old; wherefore I was afraid and durst not show you mine opinion. I find days should speak, and multitude of years teach wisdom.'

Among the Chinese, neither birth, nor riches, nor honours, nor dignities, can make a man forget that reverence which is due to grey hairs; and we are told that the sovereign himself never fails to respect old age, even in persons of the lowest condition.

Many of our readers are doubtless acquainted with the name of the Swiss doctor, Michael Schuppach, of Lengnau, in the Emmenthal, who was highly celebrated, and much in vogue in the last century. He is mentioned by Archdeacon Coxe, in his 'Travels in Switzerland,' who himself consulted him. There was a time when people of distinction and fortune came to him, particularly from France and Germany, and even from more distant countries; and innumerable are the cures which he performed upon patients given up by the regular physicians. There were once assembled in Michael Schuppach's laboratory a great many distinguished persons from all parts of the world, partly to consult him, and partly out of curiosity; and among them, many French ladies and gentlemen, and a Russian prince, with his daughter, whose singular beauty attracted general attention. A young French marquess attempted, for the amusement of the ladies, to display

his wit on the miraculous doctor; but the latter, though not much acquainted with the French language, answered so pertinently that the marquess had not the laugh on his side. During this conversation, there entered an old peasant, meanly dressed, with a snow-white beard, a neighbour of Schuppach's. Schuppach directly turned away from his great company to his old neighbour, and hearing that his wife was ill, set about preparing the necessary medicine for her, without paying much attention to his more exalted guests, whose business he did not think so pressing. The marquess was now deprived of one subject of his wit, and therefore chose for his butt the old man, who was waiting while his neighbour Michael was preparing something for his old Mary. After many silly jokes on his long white beard, he offered a wager of twelve louis d'or, that none of the ladies would kiss the old dirty-looking fellow. The Russian princess, hearing these words, made a sign to her attendant, who brought her a plate. The princess put twelve louis d'ors on it, and had it carried to the marquess, who of course could not decline adding twelve others. Then the fair Russian went up to the old peasant with the long beard, and said, 'Permit me, venerable father, to salute you after the fashion of my country.' Saying this, she embraced him, and gave him a kiss. She then presented him the gold which was on the plate, with these words: 'Take this as a remembrance of me, and as a sign that the Russian girls think it their duty to honour old age.'

Respect to Instructors.

The Emperor Theodosius used frequently to sit by his children, Arcadius and Honorius, whilst Arsenius taught them. He commanded them to show the same respect to their master as they would to himself; and surprising them once sitting, whilst Arsenius was standing, he took from them their princely robes, and did not restore them till a long time after, nor even then till after much entreaty.

Burton, in his 'Anatomy of Melancholy,' says that it was reported of Magdalene, queen of Louis the Eleventh of France, that taking a walk one evening with her ladies, she espied M. Alanus, one of the king's chaplains, an old hard-favoured man, lying fast asleep in an arbour. She went to him, and gently kissed him. When the young ladies laughed at her for it, she replied, 'that it was not his person that she had shown that mark of respect for, but the divine beauty of his soul.'

Directing the Affections.

In that polite age, when Greece was in all her glory, there lived at Athens a noble citizen, named Democritus, whom affluence of fortune, generosity of temper, and extent

of knowledge, made the delight of the poor, an example to the rich, a benefactor to the distressed, and an ornament to his country. But amidst all the blessings power and virtue could bestow, he was suddenly rendered the most miserable of men, by the death of his wife, Aspasia, who, dying in childbed, left him the consolation alone of being father to an infant, which was a living image of its deceased mother. It was a long time before his philosophy could get the better of his immoderate grief; but his passion being allayed by degrees, he resumed the man, and submitted again to the dictates of reason. His thoughts now wholly turned to the education of his son Euphemion (for so he called the boy), whose very dawn of infancy promised the greatest splendour; but considering that the vivacity of his temper would greatly expose him to the seductions of the world, he would often, as the child sat playing upon his lap, mix an anxious tear with the smiles of paternal pleasure.

When Euphemion was past his childhood, the prudent Democritus thought of an expedient to make pleasure the passage to virtue, as virtue was the only one to real pleasure: for knowing, from his own past conduct, the propensity of man to voluptuousness, he made that the enforcement of his precepts which generally is the bane of all morality. As they were walking together in a gallery of pictures, 'Behold, my son,' said the father, 'that representation of perfect beauty, embracing, with no small ecstasy, a young man who kneels before her.' 'Methinks,' said Euphemion, interrupting him, 'I can read in the painting the greatest transport of soul; and sure he has sufficient reason to appear enraptured, when the masterpiece of heaven is in his possession.' 'You speak,' continued Democritus, 'as if you envied his situation, and with too much warmth and enthusiasm, of objects which are so easy to be obtained.' 'To be obtained!' replied Euphemion; 'by what means, and by whom? If it is in my power, O tell me the way! for it will make your son the happiest of mortals.' 'Alas!' said the father, sighing, 'I am afraid the impatience of your temper will never suffer you to undergo the self-denial and delay that is requisite, before you can arrive at such a height of felicity.' The boy still urging the request with more vehemence than ever, Democritus addressed him in the following words:—'Since you press me so earnestly to instruct you in a mystery, which, if observed, will procure you an original, equal to that representation, you must be cautious, when once you are initiated, not to deviate in the least from the divine institution, nor to divulge the secret, for the delinquent, in such cases, is always punished with death, by the deity to whom the temple of those rites are dedicated. The story, then, which never is told to any but those who are resolved to follow the great example, is this. The young man you see here is a native of Cyprus, who fell desperately in love with an ideal beauty, the offspring of his own imagi-

nation. As he was sitting one day by the side of a fountain, sighing for the visionary object of his desires, he fell asleep, and dreamt that Diana descended to him from a cloud, and promised him the actual enjoyment of his wishes, provided he retired immediately to Ephesus, and during the space of four years, lived in chastity, and applied himself to the cultivation of his mind, according to the precepts of philosophy. The vision seemed so strong to the young lover that he complied with the celestial admonition, and banishing from his thoughts, as soon as possible, all voluptuous desires, he repaired to the place to which the goddess commanded him to go. At the end of four years, when he had faithfully completed the probationary state, he was transported back again in his sleep to the fountain where he first saw the deity, and awaking suddenly, found to his no small surprise that beautiful virgin, the reward of his labours, embracing him in the manner described by the artist. This, my son, afterwards became a religious mystery, and is (since you are acquainted with the rise of it) a test which you must inevitably undergo. Divest yourself, therefore, for a while, of all the affections which you have hitherto conceived, and vie with the resolute Cyprian, that you may partake of his bliss.'

Euphemion, who was all this time attentive to what his father said, could not help expressing some concern at so severe an injunction. Recollecting, however, that he was only to curb his passion for the present, in order to give a greater loose to it hereafter, he resolved, from that hour, to begin the trial. Accordingly, at the age of fifteen, he retired from all objects that might in the least tend to divert his mind from philosophy. The first year was spent in continual struggles between passion and reason; the second made his solitary life somewhat more agreeable; the third afforded real pleasure in the pursuit, exclusive of the object pursued; and the fourth completed the happy delusion, by rendering him, by habitual study, entirely master of himself. At the expiration of the term, he seemed very little solicitous about the original inducement; but recollecting some circumstances of the promised fair, he inquired of his father one day, in a jocular manner, when he should possess the nymph in reward of his labours? Democritus replied, 'My son, the account I gave you of the Cyprian, as you seem already to understand, was entirely fabulous; the whole picture is an ingenious allegory. I used this device to lead you, imperceptibly, into the paths of true pleasure, and to make your life an explanation of these two figures. The one I supposed to be Happiness, the daughter of Virtue and Moderation; the other, the emblem of a man courting her embrace, whom she never fails to caress with a mutual affection, when conducted by her celestial parents. You expected only a fugitive pleasure, as the recompense of your perseverance; but are now in possession of a permanent one, that will attend you through life with unchangeable fidelity.'

Alexander the Great.

Olympias, the mother of Alexander, was of so unhappy a disposition, that he would never allow her to have any concern in the affairs of government. Olympias used frequently to make very severe complaints on this account, but Alexander submitted to her ill humour with great mildness and patience. Antipater, one of his friends, having one day written a long letter against her to the king, the monarch, on reading it, said, 'Antipater does not know that one single tear shed by a mother, will obliterate ten thousand such letters as this.'

Rival Brothers.

Schiller, who relates the following affecting anecdote, vouches for its truth :—

Two brothers, Barons of W—, were in love with a young and excellent lady, and neither was acquainted with the passion of the other. The affection of both was tender and vehement; it was their first love; the maiden was beautiful, and formed of sensibility. They suffered their inclinations to increase to the utmost bounds, for the danger the most dreadful to their hearts, was unknown to them—to have a brother for a rival. Each forbore an early explanation with the lady, and thus were both deceived, until an unexpected occurrence discovered the whole secret of their sentiments.

Their love had already risen to its utmost height: that most unhappy passion which has caused almost as cruel ravages as its dreadful counterpart, had taken such complete possession of their hearts, as to render a sacrifice on either side impossible. The fair one, full of commiseration for the unhappy situation of these two unfortunates, would not decide upon the exclusion of either, but submitted her own feelings to the decision of their brotherly love.

Conqueror in this doubtful strife betwixt duty and sentiment, which our philosophers are always so ready to decide, but which the practical man undertakes so slowly, the elder brother said to the younger, 'I know thou lovest the maiden as vehement, as myself. I will not ask for which of us a priority of right should determine. Do thou remain here, whilst I seek the wide world. I am willing to die, that I may forget her. If such be my fate, brother, then is she thine, and may heaven bless thy love! Should I not meet with death, do thou set out, and follow my example.'

He left Germany, and hastened to Holland: but the form of his beloved still followed him. Far from the climate which she inhabited, banished from the spot which contained the whole felicity of his heart, in which alone he was able to exist, the unhappy youth sickened, as the plant withers which is ravished from its maternal bed in Asia, by the powerful European, and forced from its more clement sun into a remote and rougher

soil. He reached Amsterdam in a desponding condition, where he fell ill of a violent and dangerous fever. The form of her he loved predominated in his frantic dreams; his health depended on her possession. The physicians were in doubt of his life, and nothing but the assurance of being restored again to her, rescued him from the arms of death. He arrived in his native city, changed to a skeleton, the most dreadful image of consuming grief; and with tottering steps reached the door of his beloved—of his brother.

'Brother, behold me once again. Heaven knows how I have striven to subdue the emotions of my heart. I can do no more.' He sunk senseless into the lady's arms.

The younger brother was no less determined. In a few weeks he was ready to set out.

'Brother, thou hast carried thy grief with thee to Holland. I will endeavour to bear mine farther. Lead not the maiden to the altar till I write to thee. Fraternal love alone permits such a stipulation. Should I be more fortunate than thou wert, let her be thine, and may heaven prosper thy union. Should I not, may the Almighty in that case judge further between us! Farewell. Take this sealed packet; do not open it till I am far from hence. I am going to Batavia.'

He then sprung into the coach. The other remained motionless, and absorbed in grief, for his brother had surpassed him in generosity. Love, and at the same time, the losing such a man, rushed forcibly upon his mind. The noise of the flying vehicle pierced him to the heart; his life was feared.

The packet was opened. It contained a complete assignment of all his German possessions to his brother, in the event of fortune being favourable to the fugitive in Batavia. The latter, subduer of himself, sailed with some Dutch merchants, and arrived safely at that place. A few weeks after, he sent his brother the following lines:

'Here, where I return thanks to the Almighty, here, in another world, do I think of thee, and of our loves, with all the joy of a martyr. New scenes and events have expanded my soul, and God has given me strength to offer the greatest sacrifice to friendship. The maiden—here a tear doth fall—the last I have conquered—the maiden is thine. Brother, it was not ordained that I should possess her: she would not have been happy with me. If the thought should ever come to her, that she would have been—Brother! brother! with difficulty do I tear her from my soul. Do not forget how hard the attainment of her has been to thee. Treat her always as thy youthful passion at present teaches thee. Treat her always as the dear legacy of a brother, whom thy arms will never more enfold. Farewell! Do not write to me when thou celebratest thy marriage—my wounds still bleed. Write to me that thou art happy. My deed is a surety to me, that God will not forsake me in a foreign world.'

The nuptials were celebrated. The most

felicitous of marriages lasted a year. At the end of that period, the lady died. In her expiring moments, she acknowledged to her most intimate friend, the unhappy secret of her bosom—that the exiled brother she had loved the strongest.

Both brothers still live. The elder upon his estates in Germany, where he has married again. The younger remains in Batavia, and has become a fortunate and shining character. He made a vow never to marry, and has kept it.

Wife of Polyxenus.

Polyxenus, Dionysius's brother-in-law, who had married his sister Thesta, having joined in a conspiracy against him, fled to Sicily, to avoid falling into the tyrant's hands. Dionysius sent for his sister, and reproached her very much for not apprising him of her husband's intended flight, as she could not, he observed, be ignorant of it. She replied, without expressing the least surprise or fear, 'Have I then appeared so bad a wife to you, and of so mean a soul, as to have abandoned my husband in his flight, and not to have desired to share in his dangers and misfortunes? No! I knew nothing of it; for I should be much happier in being called the wife of Polyxenus in exile, in the most remote corner of the world; than, in Syracuse, the sister of the tyrant!' Dionysius could not but admire an answer so full of spirit and generosity; and the Syracusans, in general, were so charmed with her magnanimity, that, after the tyranny was suppressed, the same honours, equipage, and train of a queen, which she had before, were continued to her during her life; and, after her death, the people numerously attended her body to the tomb.

Benefits of Expectancy.

An eminent trader at Lyons, who had acquired an easy fortune, had two handsome daughters, between whom, on their marriage, he divided all his property, on condition that he should pass the summer with one, and the winter with the other. Before the end of the first year, he found sufficient grounds to conclude, that he was not a very acceptable guest to either; of this, however, he took no notice, but hired a handsome lodging, in which he resided a few weeks; he then applied to a friend, and told him the truth of the matter, desiring the gift of two hundred livres, and the loan of fifty thousand, in ready money, for a few hours. His friend very readily complied with his request; and the next day the old gentleman made a very splendid entertainment, to which his daughters and their husbands were invited. Just as dinner was over, his friend came in a great hurry; told him of an unexpected demand upon him, and desired to know whether he could lend him fifty thousand livres. The old man told him, without any emotion, that twice as much was

at his service, if he wanted it; and going into the next room, brought him the money. After this, he was not suffered to stay any longer in lodgings; his daughters were jealous if he stayed a day more in one house than the other; and after these or four years spent with them, he died; when, upon examining his cabinet, instead of livres, there was found a note containing these words: 'He who has suffered by his virtues, has a right to avail himself of the vices of those by whom he has been injured; and a father ought never to be so fond of his children, as to forget what is due to himself.'

Magnanimous Husband.

Philip, surnamed the Good, the founder of that greatness to which the House of Burgundy latterly attained, was, at an early age, married to the Princess Michelea, brother to Charles the Dauphin. The father of Philip was afterwards slain through the villany and perfidiousness of Charles; and on the news being brought to Philip, full of grief and anger, he rushed into the chamber of his wife. 'Alas!' said he, 'my Michelea, thy brother has murdered my father.' The princess, who loved her husband most tenderly, broke out into the most affecting cries and lamentations; and fearful lest this accident should lose her the affections of her spouse, refused all comfort. Philip, the *good* Philip, however, assured her she should not be the less dear to him on that account; that the deed was her brother's, and none of hers. 'Take courage, my life,' said he, 'and seek comfort in a husband that will be faithful and constant to thee for ever.' Michelea was revived by these tender assurances; nor during the three years longer she lived, had she occasion to suspect the smallest diminution of Philip's affection and respect.

Demetrius.

Demetrius, the King of Macedon, was remarkable both for his filial and his parental affection. His father, Antigonus, after giving audience one day to Ptolemy and Lysimachus, the ambassadors of Cassander, called them back, because his son, Demetrius, coming in warm from hunting, went into his father's apartment, saluted him, and then sat down with his javelin in his hand. When the ambassadors demanded what his pleasure was? he replied, 'Tell your masters upon what terms my son and I live.'

When Demetrius had succeeded to the throne, and was imprisoned by Seleucus, he wrote a letter to his son Antigonus, entrusting to him the management of his affairs in Greece. He exhorted him to govern his subjects justly, to act with moderation, and to look upon his father as dead, and conjuring him never to part with a single city in order to procure his liberation. Such a letter as this might, in the cold policy of statesmen, have exculpated Antigonus for making the best terms he could,

without any consideration for his father, but his filial affection at once overcame all questions of state policy, and he immediately offered to his enemy, Seleucus, not only all the cities and provinces that he held in Greece, but his own person, as a hostage for his father's liberty.

This was refused by Seleucus, but Antigonus still continued to solicit it by the most pressing importunities and offers as long as his father lived. He even went into deep mourning during the whole of his father's captivity of three years, and never once during the whole of that time partook of any feasts or diversions. When Antigonus was informed of the death of his father, and that his ashes were on the way from Syria, he sailed with a noble fleet to the Archipelago to meet them. He deposited the ashes of his father in a golden urn, which, when he entered the harbour of Corinth, he placed in the poop of the royal galley. He placed his crown upon it, and covered it with a canopy of purple, sitting by it all the time clothed in deep mourning.

The Children of Darius.

Darius, King of Persia, had three sons by his first wife, the daughter of Gabrias, all three born before their father came to the crown, and four more by Atossa, the daughter of Cyrus, who were all born after their father's accession to the throne. Artabazanes, called by Justin Artimenés, was the eldest of the former, and Xerxes of the latter. Artabazanes alleged, on his own behalf, that the right of succession, according to the custom and practice of all nations, belonged to him preferably from all the rest. Xerxes's argument for succeeding his father was, that as he was the son of Atossa, the daughter of Cyrus, who founded the Persian empire, it was more just that the crown of Cyrus should devolve upon one of his descendants, than upon one that was not. Demaratus, a Spartan king, at that time at the court of Persia, secretly suggested to Xerxes another argument to support his pretensions—that Artabazanes was indeed the eldest son of Darius, but he, Xerxes, was the eldest son of the king, and therefore Artabazanes being born when his father was but a private person, all he could pretend to, on account of his seniority, was to inherit his private estate, but that he, Xerxes, being the first born of the king, had the best right to succeed to the crown. He further supported this argument by the example of the Lacedemonians, who admitted none to inherit the kingdom but those children that were born after their father's accession. The right of succeeding was accordingly determined in favour of Xerxes. Both Justin and Plutarch take notice of the prudent conduct of these two brothers on so nice an occasion. According to their manner of relating this fact, Artabazanes was absent when the king died, and Xerxes immediately assumed all the marks, and exercised all the

functions of the sovereignty, but upon his brother's returning home he quitted the diadem and the tiara, which he wore in such a manner as only suited the king, went out to meet him, and showed him all imaginable respect. They agreed to make their uncle, Artabanes, the arbitrator of their difference, and, without any further appeal, to acquiesce in his decision.

All the while this dispute lasted the two brothers showed one another all the demonstrations of a truly fraternal affection, by keeping up a continual intercourse of presents and entertainments, whence their mutual esteem and confidence for each other banished all fears and suspicions on both sides, and introduced an unconstrained cheerfulness and a perfect security

A Second Marriage.

The widow of Sir Walter Long, of Draycot, in Wiltshire, made her husband a solemn promise when he was on his death-bed that she would not marry after his decease, but he had not long been interred when Sir Stephen Fox gained her affections, and she married him. The nuptial ceremony was performed at South Wraxall, where the picture of Sir Walter happened to hang over the parlour door. As Sir Stephen was leading his bride by the hand into the parlour, after returning from church, the picture of Sir Walter Long, the late husband of the bride, which hung over the parlour door, fell on her shoulder, and being painted on wood, broke in the fall. This accident was considered by the bride as a providential warning, reminding her of her promise, and embittered the remainder of her days.

Corneille.

A young man to whom Corneille had granted his daughter in marriage, by sudden misfortunes, being obliged to break off the match, came one morning, and getting into the poet's closet, related to him the motive of his conduct. 'Well, sir,' said Corneille, 'could you not have spoken all that to my wife without disturbing me? Go up to her chamber; I understand nothing of those affairs.'

Earl and Countess of Sutherland.

The death of William, the twenty-first Earl of Sutherland, and his countess, in the year 1766, was particularly affecting. This amiable pair exhibited a delightful picture of domestic life, and their conjugal love was even proverbial. The loss of an only son lay so heavy on their spirits that they determined to try whether the gaiety of Bath would dispel the gloom. They had been there a few weeks only when the earl was taken ill of a violent fever, during which the countess devoted herself so entirely to the care of her lord, that it is asserted she attended him for twenty-one days and nights without ever leaving him or going to bed, and the apprehensions of his danger

so affected her spirits and appetite that her stomach refused all sustenance, and she died, at the early age of twenty-six, perfectly worn out with fatigue and watching. Her husband only survived her a few days, and died at the age of thirty-one. They were both interred at the same time, and thus loving in their lives, in death they were not parted.

Crime without Guilt.

At the York Assizes, in the summer of 1812 a respectable-looking woman, named Jane Hardy, was placed at the bar to receive sentence. She had been convicted of conveying some files and hand-saws into the castle to her husband, who was under sentence of death, in order to facilitate his escape. On her trial she requested to be transported in order to join her husband. His lordship now observed, the law had provided a special punishment for this offence, and that no discretionary power was lodged in his hands. He then, after reading an extract from the 16th Geo. III., sentenced her to be transported for seven years; when the prisoner, with her eyes glistening with tears, said, 'Thank you, my lord, you have done me a very great service to send me to my husband.'

Mother and Wolf.

In the summer of 1822, a poor woman in the environs of Oncille, in the Duchy of Genoa, of the name of Marie Pittaluga, was in a field with three young children, one of whom was at the breast. Suddenly a ferocious wolf, of an enormous size, sprang upon her and attempted to tear the infant from her arms; the mother at first repelled the furious animal, and immediately placing the infant in the cradle, and the two other children between her legs, she sustained a contest with her terrible assailant, and after having been bitten several times, she at length succeeded in grasping the wolf firmly by the throat, and preventing him from doing the least injury to the children. The husband of this intrepid female, drawn by her cries, and those of the children, hastened to her assistance; but on his appearance, the wolf made an effort, disengaged himself from the woman's grasp, and took to flight.

Shrews.

Socrates used to say to his friends that his wife was his greatest blessing, since she was a never-ceasing monitor of patience, from whom he learned so much within his own door, that all the crosses that he met with elsewhere were light to him.

Pittacus, who was as blessed in this respect as Socrates, but was famous chiefly for his valour, wisdom, and justice, invited, upon one occasion, a party of friends to his house, who had never had the pleasure of feasting at his table before. It was intended to be a sort of

bachelor's party; but in the midst of the dinner his wife, angry probably at her exclusion, rushed into the room, and, in a great fury, kicked over the table, and tumbled everything upon it on the floor. The guests did not know how to look, or what to say, on the occasion; but Pittacus relieved them from their confusion, by observing, 'There is not one of us all but hath his cross, and one thing or other wherewith to exercise his patience; and for my own part, this is the only thing that checketh my felicity, for were it not for this shrew, my wife, I were the happiest man in the world.'

'But before these,' says the author of 'Reflections on Modern Marriages,' 'commend me to that glorious instance of resolution in an English wife. This lady (who had been a widow), when her new husband, blessed before with peace and plenty, with all the affluence heaven could give, told her he married her to teach him patience, and carry him that way to heaven, well knowing that she was greater than Xantippe as a scold, resolutely answered him, "I will let you know that whatever I have been, I scorn to be any man's pack-horse." She accordingly became the most peaceable, calm, and tractable of all English wives, for her whole life afterwards.'

An Irish Cabin.

A recent traveller in Ireland gives the following vivid picture of domestic life, as he experienced it among the humbler classes of society in that country.

'I had occasion,' says he, 'to travel often in Ireland, from the year 1797, till about the year 1808; in the early part of that period, I met with an instance of generous hospitality in a poor peasant that deserves to be known, particularly as my experience during the whole time of my acquaintance with the country, proved that the same feeling existed everywhere.

'I was returning on a winter's evening from a town on the sea coast, when I was overtaken at the foot of a mountain by a storm as violent as I ever encountered, accompanied with torrents of rain. I rode for shelter to a poor-looking cabin, where I was received with a true Irish welcome. The inmates, a labourer and a wife, with a large family, were at a supper of potatoes and milk, to which I was invited, and of which I partook heartily. My horse was placed in a snug corner, and seemed as welcome as its master. I was then pressed to take up my lodging for the night, and the man prepared to brave the storm for the wants of my horse. However, finding the rain not likely to abate, and wishing to get to the end of my journey, I determined to go on in spite of the solicitations of my host. Accordingly, after offering some money, which was peremptorily refused, I got my horse to the door, when a new struggle commenced; I had no great coat. A fine new ratteen coat was produced, and nothing could induce my host to suffer me, a perfect stranger, to depart

without putting it on: and thus equipped, protected by, perhaps, a whole year's earnings, set off.'

Choice of a Husband.

An Athenian, who was hesitating whether to give his daughter in marriage to a man of worth with a small fortune, or to a rich man, who had no other recommendation, went to consult Themistocles on the subject. 'I would bestow my daughter,' said Themistocles, 'upon a man without money, rather than upon money without a man.'

The Rock of the Mother.

Near the confluence of the Atabapo and the Rio Terni there is a granite hummock that rises on the western bank near the mouth of the Guasacari, it is called the Rock of the Guahiba Woman, or the Rock of the Mother, *Piedra de la Madre*. This name was given to it from a singular event, which is related by Humboldt in his 'Travels to the Equinoctial Regions of the New Continent.'

'If,' says this enterprising traveller, 'in these solitary scenes, man scarcely leaves behind him any trace of his existence, it is doubly humiliating for a European to see perpetuated by the name of a rock, by one of these imperishable monuments of nature, the remembrance of the moral degradation of our species, and the contrast between the virtue of a savage and the barbarism of civilized man!'

'In 1797, the missionary of San Fernando addressed his Indians to the mouth of the Rio Guaviare, on one of those hostile incursions, which are prohibited alike by religion and the Spanish laws. They found in an Italian hut, a Guahiba mother with three children, two of whom were still infants. They were occupied in preparing the flour of cassava. Resistance was impossible; the father was gone to fish, and the mother tried in vain to flee with her children. Scarcely had she reached the savannah, when she was seized by the Indians of the mission, who go to *hunt men*, like the whites and the negroes in Africa. The mother and her children were found, and dragged to the bank of the river. The monk, seated in his boat, waited the issue of an expedition of which he partook not the danger. Had the mother made too violent a resistance, the Indians would have killed her, for everything is permitted when they go to the conquest of souls (*à la conquista espiritual*), and it is children in particular they wish to capture, in order to treat them, in the mission, as *poitos*, or slaves of the Christians. The prisoners were carried to San Fernando, in the hope that the mother would be unable to find her way back to her home, by land. Far from those children who had accompanied their mother on the day on which she had been carried off, this unhappy woman showed signs of the deepest despair. She attempted to go back to her family the children who had been snatched away by the missionary, and led with them repeatedly from the village of

San Fernando, but the Indians never failed to seize them anew; and the missionary, after having caused her to be mercilessly beaten, took the cruel resolution of separating the mother from the two children who had been carried off with her. She was conveyed alone toward the missions of the Rio Negro, going up to the Atabapo. Slightly bound, she was seated at the bow of the boat, ignorant of the fate that awaited her; but she judged, by the direction of the sun, that she was removed farther and farther from her hut and her native country. She succeeded in breaking her bonds, threw herself into the water, and swam to the left bank of the Atabapo. The current carried her to a shelf of rock, which bears her name to this day. She landed, and took shelter in the woods; but the president of the missions ordered the Indians to row to the shore, and follow the traces of the Guahiba. In the evening she was brought back. Stretched upon the rock, *la Piedra de la Madre*, a cruel punishment was inflicted on her with those straps of manatee leather, which serve for whips in that country, and with which the alcaldes are always furnished. This unhappy woman, her hands tied behind her back with strong stalks of *mavacure*, was then dragged to the mission of Javita.

'She was there thrown into one of the caravanseras, that are called *Casa del Rey*. It was the rainy season, and night was profoundly dark. Forests, till then believed to be impenetrable, separated the mission of Javita from that of San Fernando, which was twenty-five leagues distant in a straight line. No other part is known than that of the rivers; no man ever attempted to go by land from one village to another, were they only a few leagues apart. But such difficulties do not stop a mother, who is separated from her children. Her children are at San Fernando de Atabapo; she must find them again, she must execute her project of delivering them from the hands of the Christians, of bringing them back to their father on the banks of the Guaviare. The Guahiba was carelessly guarded in the caravansera. Her arms being wounded, the Indians of Javita had loosened her bonds, unknown to the missionary and the alcaldes. She succeeded, by the help of her teeth, in breaking them entirely, disappeared during the night, and at the fourth rising sun was seen at the mission of San Fernando, hovering around the hut where her children were confined. "What the woman performed," added the missionary who gave us this sad narrative, "the most robust Indian would not have ventured to undertake. She traversed the woods at a season when the sky is constantly covered with clouds, and the sun, during whole days, appears but for a few minutes. Did the course of the waters direct her way? The inundations of the rivers forced her to go far from the banks of the main stream, through the midst of woods, where the movement of the waters is almost imperceptible. How often she must have been stopped by the thorny lianas, that form a network round the trunks they entwine? How often must she have

swam across the rivulets that run into the Atabapo? This unfortunate woman was asked how she had sustained herself during the four days? She said "that, exhausted with fatigue, she could find no other nourishment than those great black ants called *vachacos*, which climb the trees in long bands, to suspend on them their resinous nests." We pressed the missionary to tell us whether the Guahiba had peacefully enjoyed the happiness of remaining with her children, and if any repentance had followed this excess of cruelty. He would not satisfy our curiosity; but at our return from the Rio Negro, we learnt that the Indian mother was not allowed time to cure her wounds, but was again separated from her children, and sent to one of the missions of the Upper Oroonoko. There she died, refusing all kind of nourishment, as the savages do in great calamities.

'Such is the remembrance annexed to this fatal rock, to *Piedra de la Madre*.'

Extraordinary Coincidences.

William Douglas, of Lanark, in Scotland, married a wife who was born on the same day and hour as himself; and they were baptized in the same church. At the age of nineteen they were married, with the consent of their relations, in the church where they were baptized. During the course of a long life, they experienced no infirmity, and died at the age of a hundred years, on the same day, reposing together on the old marriage bed. They were interred in the same grave, beneath the baptismal font where they had presented themselves together in the preceding century.

Mrs. Jay and Mrs. Gilbert, of Uxbridge, were twin sisters. They were born within half an hour of each other, were both married on one day, were both left widows, died much about the same time, in 1776, and were both buried in one grave.

Fraternal Devotion.

In the commencement of the dynasty of Tang, in China, Loutao-tsung, who was disaffected to the government, being accused of a crime which affected his life, obtained leave from those who had him in custody, to perform the duties of the Tao to one of his deceased friends. He escaped from his keepers, and fled to the house of Lou Nan-kin, with whom he was on terms of friendship, and there concealed himself. Lou Nan-kin, notwithstanding the strict search that was made, and the severity of the court against those who conceal prisoners that have escaped, would not betray his friend. The circumstance was at length discovered, and Lou Nan-kin was imprisoned. The court was just on the point of proceeding against him, when his younger brother, presenting himself before the judge, said, 'It is I, sir, who have concealed the prisoner; it is I who ought to suffer, and not my elder brother.' The eldest, on the contrary, maintained that his younger brother accused him-

self wrongfully, and was not in the least culpable. The judge, who was a person of great discernment, examined both parties so minutely, that he not only discovered that the younger brother was innocent, but even made him confess so himself. 'It is true, sir,' said the younger, suffused in tears, 'it is true I have accused myself falsely, but I have strong reasons for so doing. My mother has been dead for some time, and she is yet unburied; I have a sister also who is marriageable, but is not yet disposed of. These are affairs which my brother is capable of managing, but I am not; and therefore desire to die in his stead. Vouchsafe, therefore, to receive my testimony, and to admit that I am the culprit.' The judge would not decide, but laid the case before the emperor; who, after minutely examining into all the circumstances of the case, had the magnanimity to pardon the criminal.

Family of the Suns.

The Natches, who formerly inhabited a vast extent of country to the westward of the Mississippi, were under the dominion of one grand chief, called the Great Sun; and of some hundreds of superior chiefs, or suns, all related to the Great Sun. When any of the Suns died, their wives were obliged to accompany them to the Land of Spirits; and the law also condemned every Natches to death who had married a girl of the blood of the Suns, should he happen to survive her.

A young Indian called Etteactéal, heedless of the peril he run, married a girl of the blood of the Suns. Not long after, she fell sick; and Etteactéal seeing the hour of trial at hand, suddenly lost all wish for dying on her funeral pile. As soon, therefore, as he saw his wife at the point of death, he took to flight, embarked in a piragua on the Mississippi, and came to New Orleans. He put himself under the protection of M. de Bienville, the then governor, and offered to be his huntsman. The governor accepted his services, and interested himself for him with the Natches, who declared that he had nothing more to fear, the ceremony being past, and he was accordingly no longer a lawful prize.

Etteactéal, being thus assured, ventured to return to his nation; and, without settling among them, he made several voyages thither he happened to be there when the sun, called the Stung Serpent, brother to the Grand Sun died; he was a relation of the late wife of Etteactéal, and they resolved to make him now pay his debt. M. de Bienville had been recalled to France, and the sovereign of the Natches thought that the protector's absence had annulled the reprieve granted to the protected person, and accordingly caused him to be arrested. As soon as the poor fellow found himself in the hut of the grand chief of war, together with the other victims destined to be sacrificed to the Stung Serpent, he gave vent to the excess of his grief. The favourite wife of the late Sun, who was also to be sacrificed,

l who saw the preparations for her death with firmness, and seemed impatient to rejoin her husband, hearing Etteactéal's complaints and groans, said to him: 'Art thou no warrior?' He answered, 'Yes, I am one.' 'However,' said she, 'thou criest, life is dear to me; and as that is the case, it is not fit that thou shouldst go along with us, go with the women.' Etteactéal replied, 'True, life is dear to me; it would be well if I walked yet to earth till the death of the Great Sun, and I would die with him.' 'Go thy way,' said the favourite; 'it is not fit that thou shouldst die with us, and that thy heart should remain behind on earth; once more get away, and let me see thee no more.'

Etteactéal did not stay to hear this again repeated to him; he disappeared like lightning. Three old women, however, two of whom were his relations, offered to pay his debt; their age and their infirmities had distressed them with life; neither of them had been able to use their legs for a long while. They were despatched in the evening, one at the door of the Stung Serpent, and the other two upon the place before the temple.

The morning after this execution they made everything ready for the convoy of the Stung Serpent to the Land of Spirits; and the hour being come, the great master of the ceremonies appeared at the door of the hut, adorned suitable to his quality; the victims who were to accompany the deceased prince to the mansion of spirits now came forth; they consisted of the favourite wife of the deceased, of his second wife, his chancellor, his physician, his hired man—that is, his first servant, and some old women.

The favourite went to the Great Sun, with whom there were several Frenchmen, to take leave of him; she gave orders for the Suns of both sexes, that were her children, to appear, and spoke to the following effect:—

'Children, this is the day on which I am to tear myself from your arms, and to follow your father's steps, who waits for me in the Country of Spirits; if I were to yield to your tears, I would injure my love, and fail in my duty. I have done enough for you, by bearing you next my heart, and by suckling you with my breasts. You that are descended of his blood, and fed by my milk, ought you to shed tears? Rejoice rather that you are Suns and warriors; you are bound to give examples of firmness and valour to the whole nation: go, my children, I have provided for all your wants, by procuring you friends; my friends, and those of your father, are yours too; I leave you amidst them: they are the French, they are tender-hearted and generous; make yourselves worthy of their esteem, not degenerating from your race; always act openly with them, and never implore them with meanness.'

'Are you Frenchmen?' said she, turning herself towards our officers; 'I recommend my orphan children to you; they will know no other fathers but you, you ought to protect them.'

After that she got up, and, followed by her

troop, returned to her husband's hut, with a surprising firmness.

A noble woman came to join herself to the victims, of her own accord, being engaged by the friendship she bore the Stung Serpent to follow him into the other world. The Europeans called her the haughty lady, on account of her majestic deportment, and her proud air, and because she only frequented the company of the most distinguished Frenchmen; they regretted her much, because she had the knowledge of several simples, with which she had saved the lives of many of their sick. This moving sight filled them with grief and horror. The favourite wife of the deceased rose up and spoke to them with a smiling countenance. 'I die without fear,' said she; 'grief does not embitter my last hours; I recommend my children to you; whenever you see them, noble Frenchmen, remember that you have loved their father, and that he was, till death, a true and sincere friend of your nation, whom he loved more than himself. The Disposer of life has been pleased to call him, and I shall soon go and join him; I shall tell him that I have seen your hearts move at the sight of his corpse; do not be grieved, we shall be longer friends in the Land of Spirits than here, because we do not die there again.'

At the hour intended for the ceremony, they made the victims swallow little balls, or pills of tobacco, in order to make them giddy, and, as it were, to take the sensation of pain from them; after that, they were all strangled, and put upon mats, the favourite upon the right, the other wife on the left, and the others according to their rank.

Swedish Children.

Mr. M'Donald, in his 'Travels through Sweden,' says: 'Young children, from the age of one, to that of eighteen months, are wrapped up in bandages, like cylindrical wicker baskets; which are contrived so as to keep their bodies straight, without interfering much with their growth. They are suspended from pegs in the wall, or laid in any convenient part of the room, without much nicety, where they exist in great silence and good humour. I have not heard the cries of a child since I came to Sweden.'

Returning from Slavery.

'The records of slavery,' says the writer of a letter from Free Town, Sierra Leone, of recent date, 'have produced few cases like that which we are about to relate. An African, who was carried off as a slave from the banks of the Senegal, above thirty years since, has recently returned to Goree from the Havannah, with a very numerous family of children and grandchildren, daughters, and sons-in-law, all free. The patriarch of this family was very laborious and industrious; and, by the earnings of additional labour beyond that required of him as a tradesman-slave, he realized

enough to purchase his freedom, according to the Spanish custom. He also redeemed those of his family and connexions who were in bondage; and, being desirous to finish his days in the land of his fathers, and to bring his descendants with him, he has reached Goree with the whole, but there the younger branches stop. The sons, who know no other country but the Havannah, and who are Spaniards in language, habits, and modes of living, were very much disinclined to the voyage, and they refuse absolutely to pass from Goree into the interior.'

Poor Jack.

The child of a drunken sailor asked him for bread. Irritated by his request, the dissolute father spurned him from him with his foot, and the child fell in the sea, from the beach. Nothing could be done from the shore, and the child soon disappeared; but the arm of Providence was extended over him, and by clinging to an oar, or raft, that he came near, he floated, till picked up by a vessel then under weigh. The child could only tell them his name was Jack, but the humanity of the crew led them to take care of him. Poor Jack, as he grew up, was promoted to wait on the officers, received instruction easily, was quick and steady, and served in some actions. In the last, he had obtained so much promotion, that he was appointed to the care of the wounded seamen. He observed one with a Bible under his head, and showed him so much attention, that the man, when he was near dying, requested Jack to accept this Bible, which had been the means of reclaiming him from the ways of sin. By some circumstances, Poor Jack recognised, in the penitent sailor, his once cruel father.

Such was the affecting story, as related at a meeting of the Brighton Bible Society, by a stranger, who requested permission to address the company. It made a powerful impression on all present; which was not lessened, when the speaker added, with a modest bow, 'And ladies and gentlemen, I am poor Jack.'

Appius and his Son.

During the proscription of the second triumvirate in Rome, young Appius followed the example of Æneas, and with the like success. His father, Appius, aged and infirm, seeing himself proscribed, did not think the remainder of a languishing life worth the pains of preserving, and was willing to wait for the murderers quietly at his own house. He could not, however, resist the pressing entreaty and zeal of his son, who took him on his shoulders, and loaded with his precious burden, went through the city unknown to some, and commanding the respect of others, by so commendable and generous an action. As soon as they got out of Rome, the son, sometimes assisting his father to walk, and sometimes carrying him, when the fatigue was too great, conducted him to the sea, and

conveyed him safe into Sicily. The people preserved the remembrance of this affectionate conduct, and on the return of Appius, to Rome, after the triumvirs had put a stop to the proscription, the tribes unanimously concurred in raising him to the ædileship. But the goods of his father having been confiscated, he had not money to defray the expenses of the shows belonging to that office. On this account, the artificers charged nothing for their labour, and the people taxing themselves willingly, each, according to his ability, not only enabled him to defray the expense of the usual sports, but to purchase an estate twice the value of that which he had lost.

Singular Marriage Ceremony.

Among the Liburnians, a singular custom prevails at their weddings. Before the dinner is over, the bride and all the guests rise from the table; she has then to throw over the roof of the bridegroom's house, a cake, called *kolarh*, made of coarse dough. The higher she throws it, the happier, according to their notion, the union will make a good housewife; and as the houses are very low, and the cake as hard as a stone, the bride seldom fails in ensuring the lucky omen. Two men attend the bride, and are expected to present her with new shoes and stockings: she does not put them on till after her dance, and gives two or three old handkerchiefs in return.

German Exiles.

Michael Koster was one of those unfortunate subjects of Hesse Cassel, who were bought by the English government to fight their battles in America. He was taken prisoner at Trenton; and after various vicissitudes, took the first favourable opportunity that presented, to make his escape into the interior, where he remained until the conclusion of the struggle which secured the independence of America. Like most of his countrymen, he was frugal and industrious; in the course of a few years, he took up a tract of land from the state; cleared a few acres; built a log hut; sowed his first crop, and began to think seriously of getting a wife. This last affair he found to be most difficult, justly considering with the immortal bard of Avon, that

'Marriage is a matter of more worth,
Than to be dealt in by attorneyship.'

'At length,' said he, 'I met with mine Kate, at an hoesesaw. We danced together; talked over farm affairs, and I accompanied her home. Everything looked neat and clean about her mother's dwelling, and as she was a good-looking girl, I soon made up my mind. The next time we met, I took an opportunity to confess my attachment, found it was reciprocal, and we were finally married.' Everything conspired to render him happy; his wife proved herself worthy of his attachment, managed his dairy, made his butter and cheese: and presented him with several

sturdy little children, as pledges of their affection. His land repaid their industry, and his wealth increased in proportion. One circumstance alone clouded his felicity; it was the fate of his parents. Of their welfare he heard not a single word; of his fate they must of necessity be ignorant. The village in which they resided, had been demolished by the French; and the idea of their destruction, in some measure marred his felicity. The arrival of a vessel filled with German redemptioners, opened to his mind an avenue of hope. He repaired to Philadelphia, and went on board the vessel, in hopes of obtaining some information on the subject of his errand. His endeavours, however, were fruitless; one old man alone appeared to possess the requisite information; but he was distant and repulsive in his manner; every question seemed to open some galling wound, and awaken some unpleasant sensation. Michael felt (to use his own words) 'sore upon his heart,' and determined to buy the poor man's time. He did so; and they proceeded to have the indentures made out in form. A similarity of name caused an enquiry on the part of the magistrate, and the honest farmer, to his inexpressible delight, discovered his long-lost father!

The old man lived to enjoy the happiness of ease and tranquillity but a few years; the recollection of a wife and children murdered before his eyes, could never be effaced; his joy at meeting with a son whom he had ceased to consider as living, combined with his own bodily sufferings, formed such an agitated complication of feelings, as eventually destroyed his health; it was one of his son's most pleasing reflections, that he had solaced his declining years, and smoothed his passage to the tomb.

An Old Servant.

Lady Cremorne had a female servant who lived with her forty-eight years; during the latter half of which time she was her ladyship's housekeeper. This excellent servant, whose name was Elizabeth Palfrey, so regulated the household of the family, that during the whole time she lived with Lady Cremorne at Chelsea, not one of the female servants was ever known to be disorderly in her conduct, or to have left her place, except on account of marriage or bad health.

Metellus and his Son.

While Octavius was at Samos, after the battle of Actium, which made him master of the universe, he held a council to examine the prisoners who had been engaged in Antony's party. Among the rest, there was brought before him an old man, Metellus, oppressed with years and infirmities, disfigured with a long beard, a neglected head of hair, and tattered clothes. The son of this Metellus was one of the judges; but it was with

great difficulty he knew his father in the deplorable condition in which he saw him. At last, however, having recollected his features, instead of being ashamed to own him, he ran to embrace him. Then turning towards the tribunal, 'Cæsar, my father has been your enemy, and I your officer: he deserves to be punished, and I to be rewarded. One favour I desire of you; it is either to save him on my account, or order me to be put to death with him.' All the judges were touched with compassion at this affecting scene; Octavius himself relented, and granted to old Metellus his life and liberty.

Inseparable Brothers.

The King of Cucho had three sons, and being most attached to the youngest, declared him his successor. As such an act was contrary to the laws of the kingdom, the people thought, that after the king's death, they might raise the eldest son to the throne; but he rejected the offer, and taking the crown, placed it on the head of his youngest brother, publicly declaring that he renounced it, and thought himself unworthy of the throne, since his father had excluded him from it. The youngest brother, affected with such generous conduct, entreated him not to oppose the wishes of the people, who desired him for their ruler. He urged that the eldest son was lawful successor to the crown, and that though his father, by an excessive fondness, had declared him his successor, yet he could not infringe the laws of the kingdom. No reasoning or entreaty, however, could induce the eldest brother to accept the crown. A glorious contest, not for a crown, but to refuse it, ensued between the princes, who, perceiving that the dispute could not easily be adjusted, retired from court, and leaving the kingdom to another brother, terminated their days together, in peaceful solitude.

Affecting Recognition.

A boy, a native of Lerwick, who was captured in the early part of the French revolutionary war, and had grown into manhood in a French prison, on being released, returned to England. In his way towards his home he became so much distressed, that he applied to the captain of the *Don* schooner for employment. The captain said he was sorry that he was not in want of any additional hands, as his crew was fully adequate to discharge the cargo. The young man urged the captain to suffer him to work only for his meat, as he was literally starving for want of food. Commiserating the youth's unhappy situation, the captain complied, and the young man went cheerfully to work in the hold, among the crew. Observing, on the second day, the eager assiduity of the stranger to discharge his duty, the captain asked him of what place he was a native. 'Lerwick,' he replied. 'Lerwick—Lerwick? and what is

your name?' 'James Work.' 'Have you a brother?' 'I had,' said he, 'but it is a long time since I saw him.' 'What is his name?' 'Laurence Work.' 'Then you must have had letters from your brother?' 'Oh! yes, sir.' 'Come, come along with me,' said the captain, hastily, and immediately hurried him into the cabin.

An *eclaircissement* ensued; when each exclaimed, 'Brother!' Instantaneously they rushed into each other's arms, and for several minutes their feelings were so overpowered with the warmth of their affections that neither of them could speak, till tears came to their relief.

Marrying Youth and Age.

Gumilla relates, in the 'History of the River Orinoco,' that there is one nation which marries old men to girls, and old women to youths, that age may correct the petulance of youth. For, they say, that to join young persons equal in youth and imprudence in wedlock together, is to join one fool to another. The marriage of young men with old women is, however, only a kind of apprenticeship, for after they have served for some months, they are permitted to marry women of their own age.

Fatal Detention.

Some years ago, a young woman of the name of Wilson, who lived near Philadelphia, was capitally convicted of a crime committed in the hope of concealing her shame, and condemned to die. The day of execution was appointed. In the mean time, her brother used his utmost efforts to obtain a pardon from the governor. He at length succeeded, and hastened to save his sister; his horse foamed and bled as he spurred him on, and there was no doubt of his succeeding, but an unpropitious rain had swelled the stream, and he was compelled to pace the bank, while his heart was ready to break, as he gazed upon the rushing waters that threatened to blast his only hope. The very moment that a ford was at all practicable, he dashed through the river, and arrived at the place of execution: but, alas! he was too late, and could only witness the last struggles of his sister, on the fatal scaffold.

This was a fatal blow to the brother, who from that moment quitted society, and endeavoured to be a solitary recluse as much as was possible. He retired into the hills of Dauphin County, in Pennsylvania, where he lived much respected for his calm and tranquil life, and for the ardent affection which had estranged him from the world.

Gallant Daughter.

Sir John Cochrane, who was engaged in Argyle's rebellion against James II., was taken prisoner, after a desperate resistance,

and condemned to be hanged. His daughter, having notice that the death-warrant was expected from London, attired herself in men's clothes, and twice attacked and robbed the mails between Belfor and Berwick. The execution was by this means delayed, till Sir John Cochrane's father, the Earl of Dundonald, succeeded in making interest with Father Peter, a Jesuit, King James's confessor, who, for the sum of five thousand pounds, interceded with his royal master in favour of Sir John Cochrane, and procured his pardon.

The Just Caliph.

Omar Ben Alkhattab succeeded Aboubekr, the son-in-law of Mahomet, in the year 13 of the Hegira, and 634 of the Christian era. He reigned for ten years and a half, during which time the Arabs bore the terror of their arms into distant countries, and forced the nations which they had subjugated to embrace the religion of Mahomet. In the library of the King of France there is in manuscript an historical anecdote of this prince, which bears so strong a resemblance to a story which is told of Bonaparte in the Desert, as to justify a suspicion that the latter is a mere fable formed on this basis. The narrator of the anecdote is Abol Allah Ben Abbas, the son of Omar, who affirms that it was related to him by his father himself.

'I walked out one dark evening with the intention of visiting Omar Ben Alkhattab, the Emir of the Faithful. I had not proceeded far when a Bedouin Arab came up to me, and pulling me by the sleeve, said, "Abbas, come with me." I turned to look upon the Bedouin Arab. What was my surprise when I recognised the Emir of the Faithful thus alone on foot and in disguise! I saluted him with respect, and said, "Where are you going, and what is your intention, O Emir of the Faithful?" "I am going," replied he, "on this cold and dark night to visit the different tribes of Arabs." I followed him, and proceeded towards the tents which were spread out upon the desert: he examined them all with the utmost attention.

'We had finished our round, and were on the point of returning homeward, when we suddenly saw a tent, in which was an old woman, surrounded by a number of children, who were crying bitterly. Beside the old woman were three stones surmounted by a kettle, under which a few chips of wood were burning. "Be patient, my children," said she, "in a few moments your repast will be ready." We stopped to observe this scene, and the eyes of Omar were riveted upon the old woman and the children. At length, tired of remaining in one motionless position, I said, "Emir of the Faithful, why do we tarry here?" "I swear," said he, "not to return home until I see this old woman distribute food to the children." We accordingly remained on the spot some time longer: the old woman still addressed the same language to the children,

and they continued to weep and sob without intermission. "Abbas," said Omar, "let us enter the tent and question this woman." We entered and saluted her. "Good mother," said Omar, with a gentle and smiling air, "what ails these children? why do they thus sob and complain?" "Alas!" replied she, "because they are hungry." "And why," said Omar, "do you not give them some of the food which is in that kettle?" "There is nothing there," replied the old woman; "it is merely a device, by which I hope to divert them until they are tired of crying and fall to sleep, for I have not a morsel in the world to give them." When the old woman had uttered these words, Omar advanced towards the kettle and saw a number of flints in the boiling water. "What means this?" he exclaimed. "I told them," replied the old woman, "that I was preparing food, and when they saw the water boil up between the stones they believed what I said. Thus I am compelled to deceive them until sleep overpowers their senses, for I can give them nothing to satisfy their hunger." "How," inquired Omar, "have you been reduced to this state of misery?" "Alas!" replied she, "I am an unhappy forsaken woman; I have neither father, mother, nor any relation." "Why," interrupted Omar, "do you not make known your situation to the Emir of the Faithful, Omar Ben Alkhattab? He would not hesitate to grant you relief from his own treasury." "May heaven pour down curses on Omar," exclaimed the woman; "may his standards be levelled to the dust! How cruelly he treats me!"

'At these words Omar trembled, and seemed to be seized with mortal fear. "With what act of cruelty do you reproach Omar?" said he. "I call the Almighty God to witness," replied the woman, "that his cruelty is horrible. Has not heaven ordained that Emirs, the pastors of the people, should minutely inquire into the situation of all their subjects? When they find wretches like me reduced to misery, and burthened with children, without succour and without hope, ought they not to obey the mandate of heaven by relieving the wants of misfortune?" "But how," said Omar, "can the Emir of the Faithful know your poverty and the number of children you have to maintain? You should present yourself before him and inform him of your miserable lot." "No," replied the woman; "it is more the duty of Omar to inquire into the distresses of his subjects, than it is mine to provide for the maintenance of myself and my children. Poverty is more timid than power. And besides, the needy sometimes feel a kind of shame which prevents them from exposing their extreme misery. But the just and compassionate sovereign shows more attachment to the poor than to the rich. Such is the law of God. Whosoever transgresses it is unjust."

The woman had no sooner pronounced these last words, than Omar prostrated himself before the Supreme God, and said: "Indeed, good mother, you are in the right; but continue to deceive your children for a short time, and I will bring something to satisfy

their craving." We quitted the tent, covered with the shades of night. The dogs thronged from every side, barking at us, and it was with great difficulty I succeeded in driving them away. At length we arrived at the magazine of provisions. Omar himself opened the door. We entered; he looked around him, and approached a sack, containing about one hundred and fifty pounds of flour. "Abbas," said he, "place this sack of flour upon my back, and take thou this jar filled with butter." I placed the sack upon his shoulders, and took up the jar to which he pointed. We quitted the magazine; he closed the door, and we proceeded back to the desert. But we had scarcely completed one half of our journey, when he felt fatigued by the weight of his burden; the flour dropped upon his eyes, upon his beard, and his whole countenance was soon covered with it. "In the name of my father! in the name of my mother! O Prince of the faithful!" I exclaimed, "suffer me, I entreat you, to bear the burden in my turn." "No, you shall not," he replied; "I could bear mountains of brass more easily than the least injustice. How then could I endure to see the old woman deceive her children with flints? Come, let us advance more speedily, that we may arrive before the children cry themselves to sleep." We continued our journey: Omar was ready to sink beneath his burden. Having arrived at the old woman's tent, he laid down the sack of flour, and I placed beside it the jar filled with butter. Omar, instead of resting after his fatigue, threw away the flints and water, and put a piece of butter into the pot; then perceiving that the fire was almost out, "Have you any wood?" said he to the woman. "Here is some," she said. He rose, gathered together a few sticks, and placed them on the fire; then setting the kettle on its trivet, he knelt down on the ground, and blew the fire with his mouth. Yes, these eyes beheld the Prince of the Faithful stooping down to revive the extinguishing sparks. His thick beard, which swept the dust, was sometimes concealed amidst torrents of smoke, and he never quitted his humble position until the fire blazed again. The butter being melted, Omar stirred it round with a stick which he held in one hand, whilst with the other he threw some flour into the pot. The children, who thronged round him, still continued to weep and complain. Omar then asked the old woman for a spoon, took one of the children on his knee, and placing the others near him, divided among them the food which he had prepared. The children being thus satisfied, joyfully arose, and having spent a short time in play, fell asleep. Omar then turned towards the old woman, and said, "Will you, good woman, sell to me your right of complaining of Omar's injustice? I offer you one hundred dinars." "I willingly accept your proposal," replied she. "Well," said Omar, "give me your consent in writing." "Alas! I cannot write well enough," replied the woman. "No matter," said Omar, "I will write for you." The old woman having given her con-

sent, I went," continues Abbas, "in search of witnesses, and to procure the hundred dinars. On my return, Omar himself wrote down the contract, of which the following is the tenor:

"In the name of the most clement and merciful God! May heaven shower down blessings on Mahommed and his holy race!

"The agreement made by—the daughter—in the presence of two witnesses. She had pardoned Omar Ben Alkhatab for the injustice of which he was guilty in neglecting to enquire into her situation, and relieve her misfortunes, which is the duty of every shepherd towards the flock entrusted to his care. Omar hath given her in return the sum of one hundred dinars, so that she hath no longer any demand upon him; she hath therefore, of her own accord, agreed to the present contract."

"The contract being written, Omar folded it up, and put it in his bosom. He then rose, saluted the old woman, and withdrew. "Abbas," said he, when we departed from the tent, "when I saw that old woman deceiving her children with flints, I fancied that a huge mountain had fallen upon me, and that I was crushed beneath its weight. Seized with terror, I hastened to do that which thou hast witnessed, when I gradually felt the weight of the mountain diminish, and I again breathed at liberty."

"On his return home, Omar called his children together, and said to them, "Take, my children, this writing, and preserve it carefully. When heaven shall be pleased to close my eyes from the light of the day, do not forget to deposit it in my coffin."

"Having delivered these words, Omar sent for the old woman and her children, to whom he assigned a pension from his treasury."

Humble Heiress.

A French soldier, of the name of Hensis, who was a blacksmith by trade, married at Lemburgh, in Poland, a young woman, who cautiously concealed from him her name and family. She accompanied him to France, where they lived happily, but in poverty, for some years; when she received a letter, which, she said, required that she should leave her husband for a few days. She had, by the death of a relation, become heiress to a large fortune, consisting of several estates; two castles, two market-towns, and seven villages, with their dependencies; as well as to the title of Baroness of the Empire. Uncontaminated by such a change of fortune, the lady returned to her husband and young family, to share with them the blessings of ease and plenty.

Princess Charlotte.

The marriage of the lamented Princess Charlotte, with the Prince Leopold, is universally known to have been one of affection,

in the most enlarged sense of the term. Her elegant person, and graceful manners, of his royal highness, first attracted the regards of the young princess: a generous father gave his sanction to the rising inclination of her heart, and a more intimate acquaintance with its favoured object, ripened prepossession into love, the most ardent and sincere. After the nuptials of the young pair, and their retirement to Claremont, their time was spent in the happiest enjoyments of retired private life; they were seldom asunder; they rode together; visited the neighbouring villages, and relieved the peasantry together; and seemed made and prepared for the truest, and most unchanging, happiness of wedded life. They seldom left Claremont, and never came to London, but on those public occasions which required their presence; but at home they were busy in all the pursuits of diligent and accomplished minds. The morning was chiefly given to exercise and occupation in the open air. After dinner, the prince studied English, or assisted the princess in her sketches from the surrounding country; the evenings generally closed with music; and thus glided away the hours which, with the inferior multitude, of the great, and gay, and profligate, were laying up remorse, poverty, and shame, for years to come.

Although their time together on this earth was but short, it abounded with acts of beneficence, alike distinguished for their liberality and judiciousness. Their bounty was invariably preceded by enquiry, and never, with their knowledge, did it fall but on merit and virtue. Her royal highness carried this habit of discrimination even into the choice of her tradesmen. More than one or two of these, were indebted for the preference they obtained, to the honourable anxiety of the princess to indemnify them for losses which they had sustained through other less opulent branches of the royal family. In the majority of cases, however, the motive for selection was of a more unmingled kind; the pure desire of doing the most good with the money which they expended. One memorable proof of this, may suffice.

Finding that all who had applied for the honour of serving her household with meat, were opulent, her royal highness enquired if there were no other butchers in Esher. The steward at first replied, he believed there was no other; but on recollection, he said, there was one man, but that he was in such low circumstances, that it would be impossible for him to undertake the contract. "I should like to see this man," said the princess. He was, of course, though very unexpectedly, summoned to Claremont; when he candidly confessed, that his poverty was such, as to make it impossible for him to send in such meat as he would wish to supply to the royal household, that he never even thought of offering himself as a candidate for the contract. "What sum," enquired the princess, "would be necessary to enable you to go to the market upon equal terms with your more opulent fellow tradesmen?" The poor man was quite

as overhwhelmed with the royal condescension. At length, he named a sum. 'You shall have it,' said the amiable princess, 'and shall henceforth supply my household.'

This noble act of generosity, rescued a deserving man from the struggles of poverty, and enabled him to make a comfortable provision for his family.

Over the scene of woe which soon put a period to the felicity of this amiable couple, and to the hopes which the nation had entertained from an union of free will, so rare amongst the great, affliction bids us draw the veil. At a public meeting held about a year after the princess's death, to solemnize the opening of what is called the Royal Kent School, at Oxshott, in Surrey, for the education of the children of the poor in the neighbourhood of Claremont, Prince Leopold, who presided, after expatiating on the advantages of education, adverted, in a very feeling manner, to the strength and comfort he had derived from the principles of religion on the death of his beloved princess. While referring to this melancholy event, he burst into tears, and for some minutes, was unable to proceed: at length he said, 'You all know my distresses, and will judge whether I have not ample reason, from personal experience, to speak highly of the power and efficacy of religion, without which, I might have sunk under my irreparable loss; and to give my support to every scheme which has religion for its basis, and the moral and intellectual improvement of man for its object?'

Saving from Fire.

In 1813, a wealthy farmer, residing near Tuam, who was left a widower, with three helpless children, on his return home about midnight, from the fair of Clare, found his house all in a blaze. His first exclamation was, 'Where are my children? I must relieve them, or we must perish together.' He ran to the yard, where fortunately there happened to be a ladder, which he applied to the wall, rushed into the flames, and succeeded in penetrating into the room where the little children were in bed: he had already taken two of them in his arms, when a third, the youngest, a beautiful girl, cried out, 'Sure, father, you will not leave your own little Hannah in the fire.' The distracted parent took up the little innocent, wrapped in her night clothes, in his teeth, and providentially escaped without any material injury to himself or to his precious burden. The house, with all the furniture, fell a prey to the flames.

Grateful Mother.

Among the persons liberated by the Emperor Alexander of Russia, on his ascending the throne, was a British sailor of the name of John Duncan. His mother, a poor woman in Scotland, thinking it her duty to acknowledge this act of justice on the part of his imperial majesty, sent him the following artless epistle:

'Unto the most excellent Alexander, Empror of that grat dominion of Russia, and the teratourys there unto belonging, &c. &c. &c.
'Your most humble servant most humbly beges your most gracious pardon for my boldness in approaching your most dreed sovring for your clemency at this time.

'My sovring, the candour of this freedom is on account of your sovring's goodness in the serving and enlarging of my son, whose name is John Duncan, aged twenty-six years, who was on a prentice, who was prisoner with Robert Spittle, his master, Captaen of the *Han Spittle*, of Alloa, at the time of the British embargo in your sovring's dominions in Russia, who is the only seport of me, his mother, and besaid, I have no other freend for my seport; and on the account of your gracious benevallence, be pleased to accept of this small present from your ever well-wisher, whilst I have breath.

'The small present, is three pairs of stockings, for going on when your sovring gos out a hunting; I would a have sent your sovring silk stockings, if that my son could go in search for it, but the press being so hot at this time, that he cannot go for the fear of being pressed.

'If your sovrin will be pleased to axcept of this, and faveour me with an ansueur of this, by the bearer, and let me kno what famely of children your sovrin has, I will send stockings for them for the winter, before winter comes on, as also what sons and what daughters you might have.

'Most dreed sovring, I am your most obedient and humble servant, till death,
ELIZEABETH WILCOX.

'St. Neunsons, by Sterling, April 2d, 1804.

'Please to direct to me, to the care of Robert Raunce, in St. Neunsons, by Sterling.'

So far was his imperial majesty from despising the humble token of the gratitude of the writer, that he ordered her a remittance of £100, which was paid her through the Russian ambassador in London. Unfortunately, some busy man of letters took upon himself to correct her second letter to the emperor, and has robbed it of that originality, which renders the preceding specimen so truly *piquant*.

Dr. Lowth.

The learned and pious Dr. Lowth, as a husband, a father, and master of a family, was as nearly faultless as the imperfections of humanity will easily permit. Few men, however, have combined in their lives so much external prosperity, with so many private misfortunes. His eldest son, of whom he had reason to entertain the highest expectations, died in the bloom of youth. His eldest and favourite daughter, Maria, died at the early age of thirteen; and in an epitaph for her tomb, which is one of the finest compositions of the kind from a British pen, he has left a memorable testimony to her worth. It is in

Latin, but has been thus translated by Mr. Duncombe :

'Dearer than daughter, parallel'd by few
In genius, goodness, modesty,—adieu!
Adieu! Maria—'till that day more blest,
When, if deserving, I with thee shall rest.
Come, then, thy sire will cry, in joyful strain,
O! come to my paternal arms again.'

The doctor's second daughter died as she was presiding at the tea table, just as she was about to place a cup of coffee on a salver. 'Take this,' she said, 'to the Bishop of Bristol;' she had scarcely uttered the words, when the cup and her hand fell together upon the salver, and she instantly expired.

Daughter's Choice.

Among the families who fell victims to popular fury, in the revolt of the Cossack, Pugatchef, was an old man, his wife, and daughters. The servants endeavoured to protect the youngest, aged only seventeen years, and who was universally beloved for the sweetness of her disposition, from the assassins. They disguised her in the dress of a peasant, and she might have escaped with the greatest ease; but being deeply affected by the cruelties she saw committed on her father and mother, she would not survive them. She tore herself from the arms of the domestics, and in the fulness of her despair, threw herself on the bodies of her unfortunate parents, her eyes streaming with tears, and her hands raised to heaven, fervently imploring God to put an end to her suffering. The murderers were for an instant softened by her youth and beauty. 'Go, go,' said they to her, 'we will not kill you;' but her grief was so poignant, that she did not listen to them. She exclaimed, 'I cannot survive these horrors! Can I forsake my dear relatives? Let me die with them. I seek not to exist longer, since you have robbed me of all that attached me to life!' and again she bent over them, imploring the divine mercy. One of the monsters then struck her on the head with a club; but she was not entirely stunned. Raising her clasped hands, she prayed to God to have pity on her family. She was instantly despatched; and thus terminated a life of innocence.

Patriot Mother.

In the revolution of South America, the females of Caraccas took a considerable share, by their influence over their husbands and children. One of these, Madame Montilla, a lady of noble family, had three sons in the army; the eldest retired to North America, in disgust at the conduct of Miranda, who he foresaw would be the ruin of his country. The second son, Pablo, was induced, by the arts of a step-brother, to desert over to Monteverde, when on his way to Caraccas. The mother was so incensed at his conduct, that in a formal manner, she disinherited him.

After Monteverde had got possession of Caraccas, he waited upon her, and expostulated with her on what he called the rash step she had taken; hinting, that if she would alter her will, and revoke her sentiments against Pablo, her other son, Thomas, who was then in chains in a dungeon in Laguirra, should be released. Indignant at such a proposal, she exclaimed, with all the pride and firmness of a Roman matron, 'I glory in what I have done; and while my son Pablo may descend to the grave with the curses of his mother on his head, I shall exult in my son Thomas expiring in chains, a martyr to liberty and his country, rather than he should have his freedom on such dishonourable conditions.' The general departed in confusion at this display of female patriotism, and was compelled to respect, where he could not punish.

Parental Sacrifice.

A vessel with several passengers, in descending the Wolga, in Russia, was upset by a violent tempest, and the greatest portion of the persons on board were drowned. A father with his son, and another man, got upon one of the timbers; but as it was not capable of sustaining all the three, and the violence of the wind and waves continued, the father said to his son, 'My child, you are young: may heaven bless you; I am old, and have lived long enough; it is right that I should save your life.' He made the sign of the cross, and plunged into the water, without the son being able to prevent him, though he exerted all his remaining strength for that purpose.

'The White Woman.'

A few weeks after the evacuation of Fort Du Quesne, in 1758, a party of Indians carried off from Marsh Creek, in Pennsylvania, a whole family of the name of Jamieson, consisting of the father, mother, two sons, and two daughters, and hurried with them into the wilderness. On the third day of their captivity, the Indians received intelligence that many white people were in pursuit of them; and rather than yield up their prisoners alive, they slew the whole family, with the exception of the youngest daughter, Mary Jamieson, a girl of the age of thirteen. The last words which the mother of this unfortunate creature spoke to her, before the fatal weapon released her from the sorrows of life, were, 'Not at present to attempt to run away, not to forget her English, not to forget her God.' The Indians carried her first to the vicinity of Little Beaver Creek, and afterwards to a Shawnee town, far below, where their expedition terminated. Here the captive girl lived until she attained to womanhood, when she married an Indian, by whom she had several children. Once she attempted to desert the place, and make her escape to the white people, and had proceeded through the pathless wood many miles, when

the fond yearnings of a mother, induced her to return to her children; and she never afterwards felt a disposition to leave them. Her husband dying, she removed to Genessee, where she found a second protector in the person of Kottam, a chief, who was so proud of her for a wife, as to assume her name. By this chief, she had six or seven children. On his death, the youngest of three sons, who survived him, being ambitious of the honour of filling his father's situation in the tribe, had recourse to murder, to pave his way to the sachemdom. He accordingly watched for an opportunity, when one of his brothers little suspected what was in his heart, and slew him. This was overlooked. Some time after, this murderous man plunged a dagger into the breast of the surviving brother. The chiefs in council then resolved that he should atone for the repeated outrage upon the rights of humanity, with his own life. The mother went forward to plead for him, stating, that he was the only son she had left, and entreated that he might not be taken from her. In tenderness to the old woman, the chiefs granted her a lease of her son's life, during her continuance in the world, with the understanding, that, on her decease, the sentence already pronounced, should be carried into execution. Not long after, this young Romulus was killed by some of his countrymen, in a drunken frolic.

In 1820, the Rev. Timothy Alden, President of Alleghany College, being then on a mission among the Senecas and Munsees, paid a visit to Mary Jamieson, who was known far and near, by the name of 'the White Woman;' and it is thus he speaks of her in his report.

'She lives in a comfortable Indian style, on one of the fertile bottoms of the Genessee, flanked by high, abrupt, and romantic banks. I found her able to converse intelligibly in English, but showing, at first, that reserve which is a common trait in the character of the Senecas. She, however, at length became agreeably communicative, and gave an history of her life.

'She had been taught to read, and, if she could have had books, she thought that she could not have forgotten; but now her sight was impaired. She had learned the Assembly's Catechism, and was early made acquainted, by the care of her parents, with the duties founded on the word of God; and has probably often communicated the amount of her knowledge to the Indians. I remarked to her, that, as she had greater advantages than the people among whom she had spent her life, it must have been in her power to have offered them very important instruction, as to the duties we all owe to the great God and Saviour of the world. She said, she used to teach the children when they were young. Pursuing my remarks on the benefit which she might still afford to the natives, whom she frequently sees, by speaking to them on the things of religion, she replied with a quick articulation, and considerable feeling, "The Indians know what is right well enough; but they wont do it, they wont do it."

Family Crosses.

A few years ago, a person of the name of Harrison, went from London to Canada, with an intention to settle there, and soon after wrote to his wife to follow him. Owing to the sickness and death of a child, she did not go so soon as he expected. He fell sick, but succeeded in reaching New York, and sailed for London, apparently in the last stage of consumption. On this voyage, he quite recovered his health: and on his arrival, found that his wife had sailed for Quebec, where she arrived, and learned he had gone to New York. She followed him to that city, but did not reach it till fourteen days after he had sailed. Destitute of friends and money, she appealed to the best feelings of some gentlemen there, who furnished her with the means to pay her passage to London; where she arrived, and found that her anxious husband had remained but one day there, having sailed for New York. His wife immediately made the necessary arrangements to return to New York; but it was not until they had each crossed the Atlantic three times in search of each other, that they were destined to meet.

Bereaved Father.

'I have now done with the world,' said the amiable Dr. Beattie, as he looked for the last time on the dead body of that son who had been the pride and stay of his declining years; and ever after, he acted as if he indeed thought so. He withdrew from all society, and brooded in solitude over the sorrows of his family, till his mind sunk into a state of the most melancholy bewilderment. He would frequently not recollect what had become of his son; and after searching every room in the house for him, would say to his niece, 'You may think it strange, but I must ask you if I have a son, and where he is?' When the niece, on these occasions, felt it necessary to remind him of his son's illness, his sufferings, his death; he would evince, by a new flood of tears, the returning memory of his loss. His mind would then wander in search of some topic of consolation; and in allusion to the insanity with which Mrs. Beattie was afflicted, and which he supposed might have descended to her children, he would express his thankfulness that he had no sons. 'How could I have borne,' he would say, 'to have seen their elegant minds mangled with madness?' Year after year passed away in this state of hopeless affliction, till at length his constitution sunk under the grief which preyed upon it, and two strokes of the palsy terminated his useful and honourable life.

Unfortunate Schoolmaster.

In the year 1800, a native schoolmaster, accompanied by twenty of his scholars, was passing a branch of the Pallar river, not far from Wallajahbad, in the East Indies. The bed of the river was nearly dry, and they con-

sequently expected to pass it without the smallest danger; the heavy rains, however, had accumulated into a large and extensive body of water above the pass, which suddenly breaking through its embankment, rushed impetuously down, and overwhelmed the unsuspecting schoolmaster, and the objects of his care, with instant destruction. Two boys, with their master, alone reached the opposite bank of the river; but one of them was so exhausted, that he died in a few minutes after he had reached the shore.

The poor schoolmaster stood upon the bank of the river, gazing upon his dying pupils, in all the agonies of despair. 'And who,' said he, 'shall tell this dreadful tale to the fathers and the mothers of these children? I never can.' After this pathetic exclamation he stood a few moments a speechless figure of unutterable grief, then plunged into the flood, and instantly perished.

The surviving boy soon recovered, and carried the afflicting tale to the house of the schoolmaster, when his wife, with that desperation which sometimes marks the otherwise mild character of the Asiatic, threw herself into a deep well, and was drowned before any assistance could be given.

Malesherbes.

When the venerable Malesherbes was committed to the prison of Port Libre, during the reign of terror in France, he was accompanied to prison by the whole of his family, which was by no means a small one. It consisted of M. Pelletier de Rosambo, formerly a counsellor of the Parliament of Paris, who had married his only daughter, and his four children, three of whom were females, and had their husbands with them, so that, with the addition of Mr. Rosambo, the son, they formed the most numerous family party at Port Libre.

Mr. Malesherbes was, in the full sense of the term, what the French call *un aimable vieillard*; so far from possessing that morose and peevish manner so frequently met with in old age, and so repulsive to youth, he was never so happy and good-humoured as when in the company of young people, and on these occasions, with a pleasant allusion to his own form, which was rather diminutive and distorted, he would liken himself to Æsop surrounded by his beasts. Certainly young people could nowhere else find a companion, of his age, so pleasing and instructive: not a subject could be started on which he had not an appropriate anecdote to relate, nor a question put to him which he could not resolve in a satisfactory manner.

The younger Rosambo was the constant companion of his grandfather, they slept in the same room, and were to be seen, on most occasions, together. So fond was Mr. Malesherbes of him, that he would never suffer him to take upon himself any of those little offices that the prisoners themselves were obliged to perform, such as sweeping their rooms,

making their beds, and others of the same nature, these different tasks he himself would regularly execute. It was an interesting sight to see the old gentleman, at six o'clock every morning, after having dressed himself in the most quiet manner, so as not to disturb his grandson's repose, come on tip-toe out of his chamber with a large earthen pitcher in his hand, and go down to fill it at the prison pump, and then, though he bent beneath its weight, carry it back, up a double flight of stairs, steadily refusing every kind of assistance. When his friends would remonstrate with him on this head, and advise him to leave so laborious a task to his grandson, who was young and vigorous, he would reply that young people, after the exercise of the day, had more occasion for sleep than those whom age had unfitted for those toils which exhaust the bodily frame.

When sentence of death was passed on Malesherbes and his family, that manly fortitude which he had displayed in every stage of his personal sufferings seemed for a time overpowered by grief for the fate of his children. When he saw, however, the calmness and resolution with which all of them prepared to meet their fate, his courage revived, and the few hours that intervened between the sentence and execution were spent in fortifying their minds to meet the awful event with dignity and composure. One of his daughters, on taking leave of her fellow prisoner, Made-moiselle Sombreuil, who had been the means of saving her father's life, observed to her, 'You have had the happiness to preserve *your* father; I shall have the consolation of dying with *mine*.' As they were on their way to the fatal cart, Malesherbes, happening to make a false step at the threshold of the prison, observed, with a smile, 'This is a bad omen! a Roman would have gone back again.'

Highland Honour.

The son of a chieftain of the Macgregors, residing on his freehold at Glenorchy, went in the shooting season with a party of young associates to the moors in the braes of the country. They met with a young gentleman of the name of Lamont, from Cowal, who, attended by a servant, was going to Fort William. They all went to a sort of inn that was in the place, and took refreshment together. While there, a quarrel unfortunately arose between Lamont and young Macgregor. Dirks were drawn, and before friends could interfere, Macgregor fell, mortally wounded. In the confusion Lamont escaped, and though pursued, under the cover of night got securely to the house of Macgregor, which happened to be the first habitation which met his eye at the dawn of morning. The chieftain had got up, and was standing at the door. 'Save my life!' said the stranger, 'for men are in pursuit of me to take it away.' 'Whoever you are,' says Macgregor, 'here you are safe.'

Lamont was but just brought to an inner apartment, and introduced to the family, when

a loud inquiry was made at the door, if a stranger had entered the house? 'He has,' says Macgregor, 'and what is your business with him?' 'In a scuffle,' cried the pursuers, 'he has killed your son; deliver him up that we may instantly revenge the deed.' Macgregor's lady and his two daughters filled the house with their cries and lamentations. 'Be quiet,' says the chief, with his eyes streaming with tears, 'and let no man presume to touch the youth, for he has Macgregor's word and honour for his safety, and as God lives he shall be safe and secure whilst in my house.'

In a little, after Lamont had experienced the most kind and hospitable treatment, the chieftain accompanied him, with twelve men under arms, to Inverary, and having landed him in safety on the other side of Lochfine, took him by the hand and thus addressed him:—'Lamont, now you are safe; no longer can I or will I protect you; keep out of the way of my clan. May God forgive and bless you!'

This happened some short time before the severe act of proscription against the clan Gregor, in 1633, when, to the discredit of justice, a weak government sacrificed a whole people for the atrocities of a few. Macgregor lost his property, and was hunted for his life, in consequence of this iniquitous act. He took shelter in the house of this very Lamont, noted for his urbanity, and his deep contrition for the misfortune of his younger years; and who, by every act of kindness to his venerable guest, and some branches of his family, revered the Providence which had thus put it in his power to repay to the family of his benefactor, in some measure, the loss he had occasioned them in the death of a son.

Marriage Portions.

It was one of the laws of Lycurgus, that no portions should be given with young women in marriage. When this great lawgiver was called upon to justify this enactment, he observed, 'That in the choice of a wife, merit only should be considered; and that the law was made to prevent young women being chosen for their riches, or neglected for their poverty.'

A Female Improver.

The sixth Earl of Haddington, like too many men of fashion, devoted himself, in early life, to the most frivolous amusements; but became afterwards, through the example and exhortations of an amiable wife, one of the most usefully industrious noblemen of his age. In a treatise which he has left the world, 'On Forest Trees,' he says, 'When I came to live here [Tynningham, near Berwick], there was not above fourteen acres set with trees. I believe that it was a received notion, that no tree would grow here on account of the sea air and the north-east wind; so that the rest of our family, who had lived here, either believed the common opinion, or did not

delight in planting. I had no pleasure,' he continues, 'in planting, but delighted in horses and dogs, and the sports of the field; but my wife did what she could to engage me to it, but in vain. At last she asked leave to go about it herself; which she did, and I was much pleased with some little things which were laid out and executed. These attracted my notice; and the Earl of Mar, the Marquess of Tweeddale, and others, admired the beauty of the work, and the enterprise of the lady.' After her ladyship had succeeded in rearing several ornamental clumps, she proposed to enclose and plant the moor of Tynningham, a waste common of about three hundred Scotch acres. The earl agreed to her making the experiment; and, to the surprise of everyone, the moor was speedily covered with a thriving plantation, which received the name of Binningwood. His lordship was himself tempted, by the success of these trials, to enter with great eagerness into the plan of sheltering and enriching the family estate by plantations. He planted several other pieces of waste land, enclosed and divided his cultivated fields with stripes of wood, and even made a tract along the sea-shore, called the East Links, which had been always regarded as a barren sand, productive of the finest firs. 'And thus,' says Mr. M'William, in his ingenious and useful 'Essay on the Dry Rot and Cultivation of Forest Trees,' 'did her ladyship, to the honour of her sex, and benefit of her lord and country, overcome the prejudices of the sea and the barren moor being pernicious; and of horses and dogs being the best amusement of noblemen; converting a dashing son of Nimrod into an industrious planter, a thoughtless spendthrift into a frugal patriot.'

'Thus can good wives, when wise, in every station,
On man work miracles of reformation;
And were such wives more common, their husbands would endure it;
However great the malady, a loving wife can cure it;
And much their aid is wanted; we hope they'll use it farish,
While barren ground, where wood should be, appears in every parish.'

A Persian's Idea of an English Home.

The Mirza Aboul Hassan, late Persian ambassador to the British court, sent, one Sunday evening, a message to Mrs. Morier, requesting that she would permit him to pay her a visit. 'He shortly after,' says Lord Radstock, 'made his appearance, and remained with her, and her family, and myself, nearly two hours. On enquiring what were the books he saw upon the table, he was informed they were the Bible, and some books of sermons. He then desired to have explained to him the nature of the latter, and seemed to approve much the study of such

books, on days set apart for devotion. The Misses Morier then sung a hymn to him, without telling him the nature of the music. When they had ended, he thanked them, adding, 'I am sure that must be sacred music, it affected me so much.'

'I never beheld him in such high spirits, and so merry, as he was during the whole evening. Everything seemed to conspire to please him; the smallness and neatness of the house gave him an idea of comfort he had never experienced before. He repeated, more than once, "What could any person in the world wish for more than you have here?" Mrs. Morier showed him a miniature of one of her daughters when a child. This delighted him so much that Mrs. M. begged he would accept it. He was so pleased with this present that he would not part with it for a moment during the rest of the evening, but kept stroking it with his hand, as if it had been some favourite little animal. He is uncommonly fond of children, and the younger they are the more he likes them. The first time he saw my youngest daughter, who is eleven years of age, he seemed quite enchanted with her, and made her sit by him the whole evening, when she was not dancing. He afterwards saw a little girl of Mr. Elliot's, who is not yet six years of age, and he seemed still more delighted with her, if possible, than he was with my daughter. I asked him at what age girls were married in Persia? He said, "about sixteen." I remarked that in India they married at a much younger age; he replied, "it was true, but in Persia they liked children as children, but women as wives." He has but one wife, which he says is enough for any man, adding, "that there can be no good or use in having more."

Old Habits.

The Duke de Nivernois was acquainted with the Countess de Rochefort, and never omitted going to see her a single evening. As she was a widow, and he a widower, one of his friends observed to him it would be more convenient for him to marry that lady. 'I have often thought so,' said he, 'but one thing prevents me; in that case, *where should I spend my evenings?*'

Spirited Bride.

A couple were going to be married, and had proceeded as far as the church door; the gentleman then stopped his intended bride, and thus unexpectedly addressed her:—'My dear Eliza, during our courtship I have told you most of my mind, but I have not told you the whole; when we are married, I shall insist upon three things.' 'What are they?' asked the lady. 'In the first place,' said the bridegroom, 'I shall sleep alone, I shall eat alone, and find fault when there is no occasion; can you submit to these conditions?' 'O yes, sir, very easily,' was the reply, 'for if

you sleep alone, I shall not; if you eat alone, I shall eat first; and as to your finding fault without occasion, that I think may be prevented, for I will take care you shall never want occasion.' The conditions being thus adjusted, they proceeded to the altar, and the ceremony was performed.

Servants.

The celebrated Earl of Chesterfield left, by his will, legacies to all his menial servants, equal to two years' wages each, considering them 'as his unfortunate friends, equal by birth, and only inferior by fortune.'

The venerable and godly John Claude, when on his dying bed, thus addressed his son, who, with an old servant, was kneeling before him: 'Be mindful of this domestic: as you value my blessing, take care that she want nothing as long as she lives.'

A Ghost Secret.

A Highland chieftain, whose large estates were forfeited in the rebellion of 1715, when in refuge at St. Germain received intelligence that the government had consented to restore the lands to his son, on condition of paying a certain sum and an annual feu-duty. To restore his estates to his son, and to ensure a good provision for his wife and ten younger children, there was no sacrifice that he was not ready to make. He made every exertion to raise the money necessary to redeem his estate, and the exiled prince even contributed something towards it. Lest the money thus raised should miscarry, he resolved to venture his liberty and his life, in order to convey it securely to his wife, whom he appointed to meet him at Edinburgh, in the house of a chairman in the Luckenbooths. The lady set out on horseback, unattended, leaving her children to the care of her mother-in-law. In those times, such a journey was more formidable than now appears an overland progress to India. To the lady it would have cost many fears, even if her palfrey was surrounded by running footmen, as formerly, when feudal state pertained to her husband; but she would not place in competition with his safety, an exemption from danger or discomfort to herself. He had by two days preceded her at Edinburgh, and bore the disguise of an aged mendicant, deaf and dumb. His stature, above the common height, and majestic mien, were humbled to the semblance of bending under a load of years and infirmity; his raven locks, and even his eyebrows, were shaven; his head was enveloped by an old grisly wig and tattered nightcap; the remnant of a handkerchief over his chin, hid the sable beard, which, to elude detection, was further covered by a plaster. His garments corresponded to his squalid head-gear.

The chieftain explained his motive for asking the lady to make her abode in a chairman's house. Besides his tried fidelity, the

old tenement contained a secret passage for escape, in case of need; and he showed her, behind a screen, hung with wet linens, a door in the panelling, the hinges of which were so oiled, that he could glide away with noiseless movement. If it was his misfortune to be under such necessity, the lady must seem to faint, and throw the screen against the panel, while he secured the bolt on which depended his evasion. The chieftain gave his cash to the lady, urging her not to delay paying the amount to redeem the estate. She complied, but checked all enquiry how the money came into her hands. The rights of the estate were restored to her, and three gentlemen of high respectability, affixed their signatures to a bond, promising for the young chief, that whenever he came of age, he would bind himself and his heirs to pay the feu duty. The records were duly deposited in a public office, and the lady hastened back to her lodgings. The chieftain soon issued from behind the screen, and the lady was minutely detailing how her business had been settled, when stealthy steps in the passage warned the proscribed to disappear; and the lady sinking to the ground, dashed the screen against the panelling. The common door was locked, but it was soon burst open by a party of soldiers led by an officer. The lady's swoon was now no counterfeits. A surgeon was called. She revived, and being interrogated, replied, that no human being had been with her. She confessed, however, that an apparition had endeavoured to persuade her, that it was commissioned to impart tidings of her husband; but the soldiers had interrupted them before the spirit could deliver the subject of its mission. Every part of the house had been searched while the lady lay insensible, and as no discovery ensued, the tale she related passed current at Edinburgh, and spread over the lowlands and highlands. It was not until the lady had a certainty of her husband's decease in a foreign land, that she told her own daughters how successfully she had imposed on their enemies.

George the Third.

The following anecdote was introduced by a very popular Scottish minister on a Sunday, near the end of his discourse, whilst inculcating the duty of masters to their servants; it was communicated to him, as he said, from a near relation of one of the parties mentioned. His majesty having observed one of his domestic servants to be unusually dejected for some time, one day said to him, 'Thomas, what is the matter with you; I have observed you very melancholy of late? Are you happy in my family, or has anything occurred to vex you?' To all these questions he answered, that he was pleased with his service, and lived at peace with all his fellow-servants. His majesty desisted for the present; but some days afterwards, still observing him dejected, he said to him, 'Thomas, it is the state of your soul that troubles you!' The

man acknowledged that it was a deep sense of sin on his conscience, which grieved him. His majesty then said, 'Can you find no comfort from the gospel in St. George's (the Chapel at Windsor)?' The man answered, that he could find no comfort in what he heard there. His majesty then feelingly advised him to attend a worthy Independent minister in Datchett (a small village on the other side of the Thames), observing, 'that he would not be angry if he never saw him at Chapel (St. George's) again.'

Sisterly Affection.

Some years ago, an Indian female, who had an only brother confined for debt at Bopal, enlisted as a common soldier, and exposed her person to all the dangers and difficulties of a military life, for the generous purpose of raising money sufficient to procure his liberation. She entered into Scindia's army, where she served for two or three years, without the slightest imputation on her character, or a doubt as to her sex; when the secret was at length known, it produced but increased respect and attention from her comrades, and not a single individual presumed to utter a word that might insult her delicacy, or hurt her feelings. When Scindia learned the affectionate cause which caused her to embrace the military profession, he ordered her discharge to be made out, and furnished her with a letter to the Nabob of Bopal, warmly recommending both herself and her brother to his favourable notice and protection.

Infant Admiration.

A boy of three years of age, hearing a visitor of his father's make use of the popular saying, that 'an honest man is the noblest work of God;' made this innocent annotation upon it: 'No, sir, my mamma is the noblest work of God.'

Martyred Mother.

In the commencement of Cardinal Beaton's persecution of the Protestants in Scotland, four men were condemned to the stake at Perth; and the wife of one of them to be drowned, because, when in the agony of labour, she had refused to invoke the Virgin Mary, affirming that she would pray to God alone, in the name of Jesus Christ. The circumstances attending the last scene of this unfortunate woman's life, must move every heart from which the best feelings of our nature have not been eradicated. Warmly attached to her husband, with whom she had enjoyed some years of uninterrupted domestic happiness, she implored that they might die together. This affecting request having been barbarously refused, she soothed, by the most impressive consolations, his departing moments; and after witnessing his execution, prepared for her own. The tenderness of a

parent agitated her mind. She beseeched her neighbours to show humanity to her children, and resigned into their hands the infant whom she suckled at her bosom. An agonizing separation! Her faith, notwithstanding, rose superior to her sufferings, and she died with courage and with comfort.

Madame Rovere.

When the Jacobins regained their power by the eighteenth Fructidor (September, 1797), they condemned sixteen deputies of the Council of Elders at Paris, to be banished to Cayenne. Among these, was Rovere, the Marquis de Fontville. His wife had pleaded a divorce against him; and at a time when divorces were very easily obtained, she obtained a separation. No sooner, however, did she hear of his being condemned to transportation, than she forgot every cause of complaint which had alienated her from him. Conjugal affection revived with all its force, and she resolved to follow him in his misfortunes, and endeavour to console him under them. Learning that he was sent to Rochefort, she hastened thither; but only arrived just as the corvette which was to carry him, and his fellow-sufferers, into banishment, had sailed. The vessel was still in sight, and gladly would she have hired a boat, and endeavoured to overtake it; but this was peremptorily forbidden. She then flew to Paris; but no entreaties could prevail on those by whom her husband had been banished, to tell her the place of his exile. By accident, she learned this, and no other country but Guiana had from that moment any charms for her. Her enthusiasm inspired those around her; and two female servants, with an old manservant, who had been long attached to her family, all entreated to be permitted to accompany her. She wrote to Rovere, to announce her intention, and set sail the first opportunity that presented itself, with her three attendants and two children. The vessel in which she sailed, was taken on its passage by an English man-of-war; but when the captain was informed of her errand, he not only did not detain her, but offered to facilitate her arrival at the place of her destination. She accordingly set sail again with a fair wind, and every prospect of the happy accomplishment of her purpose.

Rovere, in the meantime, who had suffered much from the hardships inflicted on the whole party in their voyage to Guiana, and whose health had been very bad for several weeks after his arrival, was beginning somewhat to amend, when he received his wife's letter, announcing that she was on the eve of her departure to join him. The mingled sensations of joy at receiving this proof of her renewed attachment, and anxiety for the consequence to herself of what she had undertaken, occasioned a relapse in his health; but notwithstanding, he applied for, and obtained, by great interest, permission to go where she was to land, in order to meet her. He was carried on board

the vessel, being unable to walk, and after beating about for two or three days, the corvette was unable to proceed, on account of the bad weather, and he was re-landed. He was removed on shore in a state of extreme debility, and expired a few days after, incessantly calling on his wife, and haunted with the idea of all that she would have to encounter on her arrival. She reached the destined port, but was deeply affected at finding that all her efforts were of no avail to console the object for whose sake they had been undertaken. Having now no motive for remaining in so inhospitable a country, she took the first opportunity that offered to return to France.

Steele among his Children.

It is a common remark, that literary men make but indifferent fathers of families. We see few Melancthons among them, who will rock the cradle, and write and read at the same time; few indeed, who can bear to have anything to do with nursery cares or frolics in their hours of study or contemplation. A letter which is extant of Sir Richard Steele's to his wife, shows him to have been, in this respect, a splendid exception to his class. Seldom have parental affection and good-nature been more pleasingly exemplified, than in the family picture which he here presents to us: 'Your son,' says he, 'at the present writing, is mighty well employed, in tumbling on the floor in the room, and sweeping the sand with a feather. He grows a most delightful child, and very full of play and spirit; he is also a very great scholar; he can read his primer; and I have brought down my Virgil; he makes more shrewd remarks upon the pictures. We are very intimate friends and play-fellows. My dear wife, preserve yourself for him that sincerely loves you, and to be an example to your little ones, of religion and virtue. Your daughter Bess gives her duty to you, and says she will be your comfort; but she is very sorry that you are afflicted with the gout. The brats, my girls, stand on each side the table; and Molly says, that what I am writing now is about the new coat. Bess is with me till she has new clothes. Miss Moll has taken upon her to hold the sand-box, and is so impertinent in her office, that I cannot write more.'—What a subject for a Wilkie!

Joshua Barnes.

A lady, who was a great admirer of Joshua Barnes, the Professor of Greek at Cambridge, requested leave to settle an hundred a year upon him, after her death. The professor, however, politely declined the offer, unless she would condescend to make him happy in her person, which was none of the most engaging. The lady replied, that she 'could refuse nothing to Joshua, for whom the sun stood still;' and they were accordingly soon after married.

Royal Family Circle.

To those who look upon royal life as invariably a scene of unmixt indulgence, the following description of the family circle of the King of Prussia, father to the great Frederick, may convey some instruction. It has been gathered from the accounts left us by his own daughter, the Princess Royal, afterwards Margravine of Bareith. 'His children,' she tells us, 'were all obliged to be in his apartment by nine o'clock every morning, and durst not leave his presence till night upon any account. He was too restless to lie in bed, and being troubled with the gout, sat up in a large arm-chair, which was provided with castors, that he might be rolled about all over the palace, and be able to pursue any of the family who might chance to require a drubbing. His regular employment during the whole day, was to abuse and torment young Frederick and the princess; the former getting no other name than *le coquin de Fritz*, and the latter, *la canaille Anglaise* (from the project to unite her to our Prince of Wales. This was not, however, the worst of it. His majesty, as well from a motive of economy as from a spirit of maliciousness, pretended to be a disciple of the good old system of starving; ordered soup for his children, made of salt and water; and as he always himself performed the office of carver, made a point of helping every other person at table, except them. At times, however, he would pretend to give them a festival; and then would force them to eat and drink such disgusting and unwholesome things: *Ce qui nous obligeoit quelquefois de rendre en sa présence tout ce que nous avions dans le corps*. Once his daughter Frederica ventured to murmur a little at this way of living, which put his majesty into so furious a rage, that he threw the plates at their heads, and fell a brandishing his crutches about him in the most death-like style; and when the affrighted flock took to their heels, pursued them in his rolling car as long as one of them was to be seen.'

After the marriage of the Princess Royal to the young Margrave of Bareith, she paid her father a visit in company with her husband; and it is thus she describes the treatment she experienced: The queen receives her with the most insulting coldness, and orders all the ladies of the household to treat her with rudeness and disdain. The king, too, is greatly changed. 'Ha, ha!' said he, 'you are there; I am very glad to see you,' examining her with a light. 'You are very much changed,' he continued; 'I pity you.' He went on, after hearing the answer of the princess, in this cutting manner. 'You had not bread to eat; and without me, you would be obliged to beg! *I am but a poor man myself*, and unable to give you much. I shall do what I can; I shall give you daily ten or twelve florins, as my affairs will enable me, and that will always alleviate your poverty. And you, madame,' speaking to the queen, 'you must sometimes make her a present of a dress, for the poor

girl has not a chemise to her back.' The same sort of language was repeated the following day in the hearing of all at table; when the prince, her husband, who was covered with blushes, silenced his majesty, by remarking in a very significant manner, that 'a prince who possessed such a country as his, could never be reckoned a beggar; that his father was the sole cause of his distressed situation, who would give him nothing; *following in that the example of too many others*.'

Force of Habit.

'The most extraordinary instance of the force of habit I ever witnessed,' says Mr. Curwen, M.P., 'was about forty years ago, on a visit to the Isle of Man. On stopping at the Calf of Man, a small islet on its south-western extremity, I found that the warreners's cot, the only human abode on the islet, was kept by his sister. For several months in the year these two persons were completely isolated, and never even heard the sound of a third human voice, unless when the intervals of the raging storm conveyed the unavailing cries of the shipwrecked mariner. To support such an existence seemed to require, in a rational being, nerves of supernatural strength, or the influence of habit from the earliest period of life. Curious to ascertain how she could endure so desolate a life, and such complete banishment from all human intercourse, I inquired if she were not very miserable—if she had always been accustomed to dwell in that dreary abode? To the first, I was answered in the negative: to the last, my surprise was converted into perfect astonishment, when I understood that, in the outset of her life, she had passed six-and-twenty years in St. James's Street. This communication excited still more my wonder, and made what I then saw and heard incomprehensible.'

Count Ugolino and his Children.

Ugolino, a Florentine count, with his four children, was thrown into a dungeon by the Archbishop Ruggieri. The horrors which he was here doomed to encounter have given a melancholy celebrity to his name. 'The hour,' says he, 'approached, when we expected to have something brought us to eat; but instead of seeing any food appear, I heard the door of that horrible dungeon more closely barred. I beheld my little children in silence, and could not weep: my heart was petrified. The little wretches wept; and my dear Anselmo said, 'Father, you look on us! what ails you?' I could neither weep nor answer, and continued swallowed up in silent agony all that day, and the following night, even till the dawn of day. As soon as a glimmering ray darted through the doleful prison, that I could view again those four faces in which my own image was impressed, I gnawed both my hands with grief and rage. My children believing I did this through eagerness to eat, raising themselves suddenly up, said to me,

"My father, our torments would be less if you would allay the rage of your hunger upon us." I restrained myself, that I might not increase their misery. We were all mute that day, and the following. The fourth day being come, Gouddo falling extended at my feet, cried, "My father! why do you not help me?" and died. The other three expired one after another, between the fifth and sixth day, famished, as thou seest me now! and I, being seized with blindness, began to go groping upon them with my hands and feet; and continued calling them by their names three days after they were dead; then hunger vanquished my grief.'

Generous Master.

A young man, who was clerk to Mr. Cuthbert, merchant in the East Indies, being taken very ill, became unusually thoughtful and melancholy. Mr. Cuthbert inquired the cause of his uneasiness: the young man replied, that he was not afraid to die; but he had a mother and two sisters in England, to whom he had been accustomed to send £100 every year; and his only regret at dying was, that they would be left destitute. Mr. Cuthbert begged him to make his mind perfectly easy on that account, as he would take care of his mother and sisters. He was as good as his word, for he instantly went to his attorney, and executed a deed, granting an annuity of £100 a year, in favour of the mother and her two daughters, during their joint lives; and with the benefit of survivorship. He then sent the bond to his clerk, who, clasping it in his hands, exclaimed, 'Now I can die in peace; my mother and sisters are saved;' and almost instantly expired.

Fatal Obstinacy.

In the year 1771, there was one of the greatest inundations of the rivers Tyne, Wear, and Tees, ever known. A person who occupied one of the houses, built after the old fashion, on the bridge of Newcastle, being alarmed by the excessive noise of the water, took the resolution of leaving the house, with the whole of his family; and in the confusion which naturally accompanies persons who think themselves in imminent danger, ran over to the Durham side, where they had the whole bridge to pass along, except one arch, instead of coming to Newcastle. However, they got safe off the bridge; but some time after getting admittance into a friend's house, the servant-girl recollecting that her all was upon her, in case the house should fall, insisted upon returning to save her clothes. In vain did her master and mistress argue against so desperate an attempt; the girl would not be dissuaded from it, and the master ceasing his opposition, generously resolved to accompany her. The mistress would not stay behind her husband, and a son and daughter of the gentleman to whose

house they had fled, went along with them. They all got safe to the house; and the girl having taken away her clothes, and the others what was readiest at hand, they again set off for the house they had left. The mistress and the two young people, running foremost, were alarmed by a violent noise before them, which determined them to venture no farther, but to turn back; when they very soon met the master and maid, to whom they communicated their fears, and earnestly entreated them to return to Newcastle. Their entreaties, unhappily, had not the desired effect. The unfortunate husband attributed the terrors of his wife to the hideous noise the water was making, which had by that time got above the under part of the arches, and therefore resolved to proceed, begging her and her children to follow with all the expedition in their power. He and the maid, however, had gone but a little way, when they discovered the occasion of the noise before recounted to them—one of the arches had fallen! They directly turned, and screamed out to the wife and children to run back. This summons was immediately obeyed; but soon after was succeeded by a noise resembling a clap of thunder, which so terrified the unhappy woman, that she fell on her face; and being raised by the children, set up most lamentable shrieks for her husband. But, alas! there was no husband to afford her comfort! The noise which had so frightened her was the downfall of the arch on which her husband and the maid then were, both of whom unhappily perished.

Sharp Work.

Mr. Jeremy White, one of Oliver Cromwell's domestic chaplains, was so ambitious as to make his addresses to Cromwell's youngest daughter, the Lady Frances. The young lady did not discourage him; but in so religious a court this gallantry could not be carried on without being discovered. The Protector was told of it, and was much concerned thereat; he ordered the person who told him, to keep a strict look-out, promising, if he could give him any positive proofs, he should be well rewarded. The spy followed his business so closely, that in a little time he dogged Jerry White (as he was generally called) to the lady's chamber, and ran immediately to the Protector, to acquaint him that they were together. Oliver, in a rage, repaired to the chamber; and, going in hastily, found Jerry on his knees, either kissing the lady's hand, or having kissed it. Cromwell in a fury asked what was the meaning of that posture before his daughter Frances? White, with great presence of mind, said, 'May it please your highness, I have a long time courted that young gentlewoman, my lady's woman, and cannot prevail; I was therefore praying her ladyship to intercede for me.' The Protector, turning to the young woman, exclaimed, 'What is the meaning of this, hussy? why do you refuse Mr. White the

honour he would do you? he is my friend, and I expect you would treat him as such.' My lady's woman, with a very low curtsy, replied, 'If Mr. White intends me that honour, I shall not be against him.' 'Say'st thou so, my lass?' cried Cromwell. 'Call Goodwin; this business shall be done before I go out of the room.' Mr. White had gone too far to retract: his brother parson came; and Jerry and the lady's woman were married in the presence of the Protector, who gave her £500; which, with the money she had saved, made Mr. White easy in his circumstances, except that he never loved his wife, nor she him, although they lived together nearly fifty years.

Filial Devotion.

A woman of Japan was left a widow with three sons, and with no other wealth than what could be procured by their joint labour. Work became scarce, and the sons saw their mother ready to perish. With the most ardent attachment to their mother, and unable to relieve her, they formed a desperate resolution. An edict had a short time before been issued, promising a large recompense for whoever apprehended a thief, and brought him to justice. The three brothers determined to draw lots, which of them should personate a thief, and be brought before a magistrate, in order that the others might obtain the reward. The lot fell upon the youngest, who confessed to a fact of which he was not guilty; and his brothers received the money. The anxiety visible in their countenances, and the tears which involuntarily forced themselves into their eyes, struck the magistrate, who ordered his servant to follow and watch them. They returned to their mother, and threw the money into her lap: when she learnt how it had been obtained, she refused to touch this 'price of blood.' This being told the judge, he sent for the prisoner, and again interrogated him concerning the supposed robbery; but he still persisted that he was guilty. Struck with the filial affection and fortitude of the youth, the magistrate laid the case before his sovereign, who sent for the three brothers and their mother, loaded them with favours, and gave an annuity of five hundred crowns to the two eldest, and fifteen hundred to the youngest.

Happy Temper.

Firmin Abauzit, who lived to the advanced age of eighty-seven years, was a person of such a serene disposition, that he was not known to have been out of temper during the whole of his long life. Some persons doubting the possibility of such a meek disposition, applied to a female who had kept his house for thirty years, to try to provoke him, on the promise of money if she succeeded. Knowing that her master was very fond of having his bed comfortably made, she neglected it. Next morning Abauzit reminded her of the

neglect. She said she had forgotten it; and nothing more was said. The ensuing night the bed was again unmade; and the woman being reminded of it, made some frivolous excuse. At length, on the third morning, her master said, 'You have not yet made my bed; it is evident you are determined not to do it; well, I suppose you find the job troublesome; but it is of little consequence, for I begin to be used to it already.' Moved by such kindness and goodness of temper, the servant discontinued the experiment she had been prevailed upon to make, and was again forgiven.

Taking Advice.

Sir John Danvers once sent an invitation to Sir Richard Onslow, and Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper (afterwards Earl of Shaftesbury), to dine with him at Chelsea; he requested they would come early, as he had affairs of moment to communicate to them. When they arrived, and had taken their seats, Sir John opened the business by saying that he had made choice of them both on account of their correct judgment and particular friendship for him, in order to consult them on a subject of the utmost consequence to himself. He had, he said, been a widower many years, and he began to want some person to relieve him of the trouble of housekeeping, as well as to take some care of him under the growing infirmities of age. For this purpose he had thought of a suitable person who was well known to him: this was, in short, his housekeeper.

The gentlemen knowing the woman very well, and thinking it by no means a suitable match, particularly as Sir John had sons and daughters marriageable, to whom it would be mortifying, were much against it. Sir Richard Onslow frankly began to point out to Sir John the impropriety of a person of his age, marrying; and particularly such a woman. He was going to enter upon a description of her person, and to set her out in such colours as could not have pleased any man in a wife; when Sir Anthony interrupting him, said, 'Give me leave, Sir Richard, to ask our friend one question before you proceed;' so, addressing himself to Sir John, 'Tell me truly, Sir John,' said he, 'are you not already married?' Sir John, after a short pause, answered with a smile, 'Yes, truly I was yesterday.' 'Well, then,' replied Sir Anthony, 'there is no more need of our advice; pray let us have the honour to see my lady, and wish her joy, and so to dinner.' As they were returning to London in their coach, 'I am obliged to you,' said Sir Richard, 'for preventing me running into a description which I am sure could never have been forgiven me. But how could it enter into your head to ask a man who had solemnly invited us on purpose to have our advice about a marriage he intended, and gravely proposed the woman to us, and suffered us seriously to enter into the debate; I say, Sir Anthony, how could you ask him, after all this, whether

he were already married or not?" "The man and the manner," replied Sir Anthony, "gave me a suspicion that having done a foolish thing, he wanted to cover himself with the authority of our advice."

Dr. Johnson.

"It is very true," observes Miss Seward, in one of her letters, "that Johnson appears much more amiable as a domestic man in his letters to Mrs. Thrale, than in any other memorial which has been given us of his life and manner; but that was owing to the care with which Mrs. Piozzi weeded them of the prejudiced and malevolent passages on characters; perhaps much more essentially worthy than himself, were they to be tried by the rules of Christian charity. I do not think with you that his ungrateful virulence against Mrs. Thrale in marrying Piozzi, arose from his indignation against her on his deceased friend's account. Mr. Boswell told me Johnson wished and expected to have married her himself. You ask who the Molly Aston was whom those letters mention with such passionate tenderness? Mr. Walmesley, my father's predecessor in this house was, as you have heard, Johnson's *Mecænas*; and this lady, his wife's sister, a daughter of Sir Thomas Aston, a wit, a beauty, and a toast. Johnson was always fancying himself in love with some princess or another. His wife's daughter, Lucy Porter, so often mentioned in those letters, was his first love when he was a schoolboy, under my grandfather, a clergyman, vicar of St. Mary's, and master of the Free School, which, by his scholastic ability was high in fame, and thronged with pupils from some of the first gentlemen's families in this and the adjoining counties. To the Free School, the boys of the city had a right to come, but everybody knows how superficial in general is unpaid instruction. However, my grandfather, aware of Johnson's genius, took the highest pains, though his parents were mean in their station, keeping market-stalls as battledore booksellers. Johnson has not had the gratitude once to mention his generous master, in any of his writings; but all this is foreign to your enquiries who Miss Molly Aston was and at what period his flame for her commenced. It was during those schooldays when the reputation of Johnson's talent, and rapid progress in the classics, induced the noble-minded Walmesley to endure at his table the low-born, squalid youth—here that he suffered him and Garrick to "imp their eagle wings," a delighted spectator and auditor of their efforts. It was here that Miss Molly Aston was frequently a visitor in the family of her brother-in-law, and probably amused herself with the uncouth adorations of the learned, though dirty, stripling, whose mean appearance was overlooked, because of the genius and knowledge that blazed through him; though with "ambered flames," through constitutional melancholy and spleen. Lucy Porter, whose visit to Litchfield had been but

for a few weeks, was then gone back to her parents at Birmingham; and the brighter Molly Aston became the Laura of our Petrarch. Fired, however, at length with ideal love, and incapable of inspiring mutual inclinations in the young and lively, he married, at twenty-three, the mother of his Lucy, and went to seek his fortune in London. She had borne an indifferent character during the life of her first husband. He died insolvent, leaving his three grown-up children dependent on the bounty of his rich bachelor brother in London, who left them largely, but would never do anything for the worthless widow, who had married the "literary cub," as he used to call him. She lived thirty years with Johnson, if shuddering, half famished, in an author's garret, could be called living."

A Bridal Night.

In the hurricane which desolated Barbadoes, in 1675, neither mansion nor cot, neither house nor tree, escaped its ravages, except the few which were sheltered by some neighbouring hill or cliff. In Speight's Town, every house was either blown down or materially injured. Several families were buried in the ruins of their fallen habitations, and there was scarcely one but lamented some relation, friend, or acquaintance, swept to an untimely grave. Amidst this scene of ruin and misery, the fate of Major Streate and his fair bride deserves to be remembered for its whimsical singularity. They had been married that evening, at the plantation called Anderson's; but the pitiless storm, regardless of the sanctity of the marriage bed, blew them from their bridal chamber, and, with relentless fury, lodged them in a pimploe hedge. On this bed of thorns they were found the next morning, incapable of manifesting those tender attentions which their new-formed relation demanded, or affording each other the assistance which their comfortless condition required.

Death from Grief.

On the 5th of June, 1770, Miss Elizabeth Weatherly, daughter of the Rev. Mr. John Weatherly, died at Hackney. She had been the joy and pride of her parents; and on the melancholy tidings being conveyed to Mrs. W., that she had no longer a daughter, she sunk back in her chair, closed her eyes, and in an instant after, expired.

Family in the Woods.

In the back settlements of America, a poor emigrant Highlander left his wife and five children, to go five days' journey, in the hopes of seeing some people lately arrived from his dear mother country. On the night of his return, two wandering savages having discovered she was unprotected, came to the door and asked for admittance. She had for-

unately been accustomed to secure her door and window very carefully, and replied she was ill, and could not get up to offer them hospitality, and her children were too young to be able to draw the bolt. They said they would come down the chimney, for they must have some brandy, which they were sure she could give them. She immediately thought of making a great smoke with the feathers in her bolster, and in that manner kept off the assailants, till, providentially, her husband and three of his countrymen arrived and the Indians decamped.

Irish Peasantry.

Among the virtues which distinguish the Irish peasantry, there is none which shines with more brilliancy than their filial piety. No nation, not even the Chinese, can pay more respectful attention and implicit obedience to their parents. As there are no parish workhouses in Ireland, except in some of the principal towns, the country would abound with destitute old people were it not for the gratitude of their progeny. The Irish peasant, especially the mountaineer, protects his parents in the decline of their years. The mothers assist in nursing, carding, or spinning; the fathers hobble about the farms directing the young men at their work. At night the best and easiest seat is appropriated to the ancient father and mother, and the most nutritious food in the house is served up to them. 'It is really,' says a traveller, who had seen much of the habits of this people, 'an edifying and lovely sight to behold the respectful attention paid by those peasants to their aged parents, while the grand-children are taught to address them in the most endearing language, nay, to crave their blessing, and supplicate the Deity for them in prayer.'

Nor does the filial love of the Irish mountaineer expire with his parents. He closes their eyes, attends their remains to the tomb with grateful sorrow, and occasionally visits the grave of those who gave him being, and bedews it with his tears. From such a disposition, what excellent virtues might be produced with proper cultivation.

Making a Curate Happy.

Dr. Brown, who was many years Bishop of Cork and Ross, observing one day, at a visitation, a stout country parson in the consistory, with a tattered gown and an old wig, particularly examined him as to the state of religion in the parish in which he officiated. The clergyman, who felt that honest poverty was no disgrace, answered the bishop's questions with good sense and modesty, and said that he was a curate of about forty pounds a year, for which he did the duty of two churches; that he had a family of eight children, and not being able to afford a horse, he walked every year up to the visitation, a distance of thirty miles. He added, that if it were not for the additional labour of his own hands, with

those of his wife and eldest son, they must want the necessaries of life.

The bishop heard this artless story with much attention, and praising the conduct of the clergyman, said he would take the first opportunity that occurred to him to better his situation. With the Bishop of Cork to fulfil a promise was a point of duty, and not a matter of convenience, and in less than three months he presented the curate of two parishes with a living worth between four and five hundred pounds a year. The poor curate on receiving this intelligence hastened to town with the whole of his family to thank his generous benefactor. The bishop was pleased with so unsophisticated a mark of gratitude, entertained the whole family with great hospitality, and when they took their leave, presented each with some domestic gift.

The Happy Son.

Mr. Brown, a merchant of Cork, intending that his son should follow the same profession, sent him to Holland at an early age to qualify himself in such branches of commerce as he could not acquire in his native country. When he had remained in the Netherlands about three or four years, his father sent for him home for the double purpose of settling him in marriage and in business. Arriving at Cork on a Sunday morning, at the time when the congregation was coming out of Christ Church, and suspecting, from the time he had been absent, that he would not be recognised, he placed himself near the path that led from the church. He beheld the various groups that passed by with indifference, until he saw one, 'whose fairy form was ne'er to be forgot.' He followed her and ascertained her residence, determining that as soon as he had paid his respects to his parents, he would declare himself to the young lady.

The next morning his father bade him prepare himself to visit a lady upon whom he had fixed for his bride. He obeyed reluctantly, and was conducted by his father to the same house where he had traced the fair object on the preceding day. He hoped, and yet scarcely dared to hope, that his father's choice was his; and when he found that such was really the case, that the young lady on whom his heart had centred, was really to be his bride, he was almost speechless with joy and astonishment. In a few weeks the parties were married; and the first fruit of this happy union was the amiable Dr. Jemmet Brown, afterwards Bishop of Cork.

Fortunate Discovery.

In 1776, the Emperor Joseph the Second, accompanied by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, on paying a visit to one of the hospitals in Vienna, perceived a little door in a dark corner, which he ordered to be opened; but he was obeyed with so much reluctance, that it raised his curiosity. Upon entering, he

descended into a kind of dungeon, where he found a female, rather young and handsome, covered with rags, and laid upon straw.

The compassionate monarch was very much surprised and affected with this sight; and upon interrogating the unfortunate person, she answered with a noble air, of which her misfortunes and hardships could not deprive her, 'Sire, I am a woman of family, and have the honour to be your subject. I have long suffered shame and misery in this place, without deserving that double punishment.

'When I was twenty years of age, I had the misfortune to please the Baron de B. We were married, and I brought him three children, to whose fortunes I am a stranger. Before I was placed here, I heard that he was in Moravia, where he had married another wife, but I would not complain. This new lady, uneasy and suspicious, persuaded him to sacrifice me to her chagrin. I was secured accordingly one night, and confined here, where I have remained during several years. I perceive your majesty intends to interest yourself in my behalf, and will loose my fetters; but, sire, I have three sons, and if the shameful conduct of my husband should be made public, it must retort upon them; let me, therefore, beseech you to spare him for their sakes, and if I may request one more favour, deign to insure me an asylum in some convent, and that I may again press to my bosom those children I suckled.' The emperor willingly granted the lady her request; enquired after the young barons, and took them under his own care. But his justice did not stop here. He punished the second wife of the baron, with perpetual imprisonment; banished the baron himself, and forfeited all his estates to his children.

Hindoo Widows.

A more mistaken idea of conjugal duty, or a more severe and painful test of conjugal affection, cannot be conceived, than that of the Hindoo widow, who, disdaining to live after her husband, voluntarily mounts the funeral pile on which his dead body is placed; an amiable victim of a barbarous faith.

Considerable pains had been taken by the British government to stop these horrid rites, but without effect; indeed it seems that so far from the custom having been diminished, it has increased. It appears from a return made to parliament, on this subject, in 1821, that the number of Hindoo widows who were burnt or buried alive with their husbands, in the same number of districts, was, in 1815, 378; in 1816, 442; in 1817, 709; and in 1818, 839!

An Hindoo widow who resolves thus to devote herself, abstains from food as soon as her husband is dead; chewing betel, and invoking, without ceasing, the god of her husband's sect. When the fatal hour arrives, she adorns herself with her jewels, and puts on her most costly attire, as if she were going to a festival. She is accompanied by her relatives and

friends, and by the music of drums and trumpets. The victim affectionately embraces her friends and relations, among whom she distributes part of her jewels and ornaments; she comforts them, while they bless her, and entreat her prayers to God, to grant them the fortitude she manifests in similar circumstances. The widows generally meet death with heroic firmness and constancy; convinced that in thus burning themselves from conjugal attachment, they shall by the sacrifice deliver their husbands from the torments of the next life, whatever crimes he may have committed in this.

Mr. Holwell, well known as having been one of the wretched prisoners in the Black Hole of Calcutta, gives an account of one Hindoo widow, who being told of the pain she must suffer, with a view to dissuade her from her intention, put her finger into the fire, and held it there for a considerable time: after which, she put fire on the palm of her hand; laid incense upon it, and fumigated the Bramins who were present.

Bernier, who has an interesting article on this subject in the Harleian Collection, speaking of the undaunted resolution which a widow at Surat exhibited, says, 'I cannot do justice to the scene of suffering; the confidence with which she looked on us European spectators, and met the view of her little cabin, made up of dried millet straw and small wood, prepared for the catastrophe. The remembrance of the impressive manner in which she entered this receptacle, sat down upon the pile, and took her husband's hand into her lap, will never desert me; nor can time ever efface the recollection of my feelings, when I saw her calmly take a torch, and with her own hand kindle the reeds within, whilst I know not how many Bramins without were doing the same thing. I can at present scarcely think the scene possible, though it is but a few days since I beheld it.'

Mr. Forbes, in his 'Oriental Memoirs,' mentions the case of a female whose husband had amply provided for her, and what is very unusual among Hindoos, made her totally independent of his family. All was of no avail; she persisted in her determination to accompany him to a better world, and suffered not the tears and supplications of an aged mother, and three helpless infants, to divert her from her purpose. The funeral pyre was erected; an immense concourse of people of all ranks assembled, and a band of music accompanied the Bramins, who superintended the ceremony. The bower of death, enwreathed with sacred flowers, was erected over a pile of sandal wood and spices, on which lay the body of the deceased. After various ceremonies, the music ceased, and the crowd in solemn silence awaited the arrival of the heroine. She approached, attended by her mother and three lovely children, arrayed in rich attire, and wearing the hymeneal crown, an ornament peculiar to an Hindoo bride at her marriage. After a few religious ceremonies, the attendants took off her jewels, anointing her dishevelled hair with consecrated ghee, as

also the skirts of her flowing robe of yellow muslin (the colour of nuptial bliss). Two lisping infants clung around her knees, to dissuade her from the fatal purpose; the last pledge of conjugal love, was taken from her bosom by an aged parent in speechless agony. Freed from these heart-piercing mourners, the lovely widow, with an air of solemn majesty, received a lighted torch from the Bramins, with which she walked seven times round the pyre. Stopping near the entrance of the bower, for the last time, she addressed the fire, and worshipped the other deities, as prescribed in the *suttee-ved*; then setting fire to her hair, and the skirts of her robe, to render herself the only brand worthy of illuminating the sacred pile, she threw away the torch, rushed into the bower, and embracing her husband, thus communicated the flames to the surrounding branches. The musicians immediately struck up the loudest strains, to drown the cries of the victim, should her courage have forsaken her; but several of the spectators declared that the serenity of her countenance, and the dignity of her behaviour, surpassed all the sacrifices of a similar nature they had ever witnessed.

As polygamy is allowed among the Hindoos, it frequently happens that more than one widow immolates herself with the dead body of the husband. In 1807, a Koolin Bramin (the purest of all the Bramins, and who are privileged to marry as many wives as they please) died at the advanced age of ninety-two. He had twelve wives, three of whom were burned alive, with his dead body. One of these was an aged and venerable female, who being unable to walk, was carried in a palanquin to the funeral pile.

In the year 1799, twenty-two females were burnt alive with the remains of Ununtu, a Koolin Bramin, of Bagruiparu, who had more than a hundred wives. At the first kindling of the fire, only three of these wives had arrived. The fire was kept kindled three days. When one or more arrived, the ceremonies were gone through, and they threw themselves on the blazing pile. On the first day, three were burned; and on the second and third, nineteen more. Among these women, some were forty years old, and others as young as sixteen.

In 1812, another Koolin Bramin died at Chunakuli, near Calcutta, who had married twenty-five women, thirteen of whom died during his lifetime; the remaining twelve perished with him on the funeral pile, leaving thirty children to deplore the effects of this horrid system.

Some years previous to this, eighteen women, the only survivors of the forty wives of another Koolin Bramin, who died at Soukachura, three miles east of Serampore, sacrificed themselves in the usual way. On this occasion, a fire, extending ten or twelve yards in length, was prepared, into which the remaining eighteen threw themselves, leaving more than forty children. It is, however, an indisputable article in the Hindoo laws, that 'the mother of an infant child may not re-

linquish the care of her infant to ascend the funeral pile.'

In some cases, widows sacrifice themselves several years after the death of their husbands, after being earlier prevented; or if voluntarily avoiding it, they afterwards entertain a superstitious apprehension that they have not done their duty. In the Parliamentary report to which we have alluded, it is stated, that in November, 1817, Mussumaut Rammosa, aged eighty, whose husband had been absent from his home fifteen years, being assured of his death, resolved to sacrifice herself: but as, in such cases, the body of the husband is wanting, the widow generally takes some article that belonged to him, with which she mounts the funeral pile.

There are not a few cases in which, when children have been betrothed, and the males died before any consummation of the marriage, the female waits until she has reached womanhood, and then sacrifices herself. An instance of this sort occurred in 1819, when a young woman in her fifteenth year, resolved to perform the ceremony, the person to whom she had been betrothed, having died when she was only six years of age; she requested a fiddle which had belonged to her *husband* to be given to her, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of her friends, immolated herself to his manes.

In the same year, another Bramin, who had been married at seven years of age, and whose husband died the year after, determined to become a suttee; she was now nineteen years of age, and it was eleven years since the death of her husband, yet nothing could dissuade her from the horrid ceremony. When remonstrated with on the subject, she said, 'My husband's death was not occasioned by old age, and he had not attained eternal bliss; I have lived until now, in order to procure this blessing from him. Give me no advice; I am determined to become a suttee; my future happiness depends upon my becoming one.'

For four days previous to her burning herself on the funeral pile, she refused every kind of sustenance.

The Proud Duke of Somerset.

One of the most imperious lords in domestic life that history records, was Charles Seymour, the proud Duke of Somerset. His second duchess once familiarly tapping him on the shoulder with a fan, he turned round, and with a look of marked displeasure, said, 'My first duchess was a Percy, madam, and she never took such a liberty.' His children were taught to obey his injunctions with the most profound respect. The two youngest of his daughters were accustomed to stand and watch him alternately, whilst he slept in the afternoon. On one occasion, Lady Charlotte feeling herself fatigued, sat down. The duke awoke suddenly, and expressing his surprise at her disobedience, declared he would punish her want of obedience in his will. He was

cruel enough to keep his promise, and absolutely left Lady Charlotte £20,000 less than her sister.

George the Second.

Notwithstanding the publicity, and at one time the apparent truth, of the accusations against Sophia of Zell, the repudiated wife of George the First, her son, afterwards George the Second, was fully convinced of her innocence, and posterity has confirmed the correctness of his judgment. This prince once made an attempt to see his mother, and even crossed the Aller on horseback, opposite to the castle of Alden, where she was confined; but was prevented from having an interview with her by the Baron de Bulow, to whose care the elector, her husband, had committed her. Had she survived his accession, he intended to restore her to liberty, and to acknowledge her as queen dowager. Her memory was so dear to him that he secretly kept her portrait in his possession; and the morning after the news of the death of George the First had reached London, Mrs. Howard observed (in the antechamber of the king's apartment) a picture of a woman in the electoral robes, which proved to be that of Sophia.

Queen Caroline.

With the exception of their late venerated majesties, whose domestic life has been amply portrayed in the *Anecdotes of George the Third and his Family*, there never perhaps was a royal pair more happy than George the Second and Queen Caroline. Her majesty was so jealous of the honour and character of her husband, and so watchful over his interests and happiness, that she well deserved the utmost kindness and respect. Her submission to the king's will was unbounded, her sense much superior, and his honour and interest always took place of her own. She was ambitious, too, of fame; but shackled by her devotion to the king, she seldom could pursue that object. She wished to be a patroness of learned men, but George had no respect for them or their works; and her majesty's own taste was not very exquisite, nor did he allow her time to cultivate any studies. Her generosity would have displayed itself, for she valued money but as the instrument of her good purposes; but he stinted her alike in almost all her passions; and though she wished for nothing more than to be liberal, she bore the imputation of his avarice, as she did of others of his faults. Often when she had made prudent and proper promises of preference, and could not persuade the king to comply, she suffered the blame to fall on herself rather than on him.

Though for many years labouring under a dreadful malady, she made it so invariable a rule not to refuse a desire of the king, that she never neglected to accompany him in his long walks at Richmond; and more than once,

when she had the gout in her foot, she dipped her whole leg in cold water, to be ready to attend him. The pain, her corpulence, and the violence of the exercise, threw her into such fits of perspiration as vented the gout; but those exertions hastened the crisis of her distemper, and she fell at length a victim to her attentions to her husband.

Faithful Amazon.

Brunoro, a warrior of Parma, in the fifteenth century, chancing to see a young woman of the name of Bonna, in the most humble state of rusticity, was so smitten with her noble countenance, and gigantic form, that he determined to marry her. Motives of policy required that she should conceal her sex; and, therefore, dressed in the habit of a man, she accompanied him everywhere; she soon became an accomplished politician, and gained such an ascendancy over the nobles of Venice that they appointed her husband, Brunoro, general of their troops, with a large salary. Sincerely attached to her husband, and thinking it her duty to share with him the dangers to which she had introduced him, in obtaining for him the command of the Venetian troops, she fought by his side at their head, stormed the strongest fortresses, and seconded him with vigour and success in the defence of Negropont against the Mahomedans. This heroine died in 1446, leaving behind her a reputation as distinguished for conjugal affection as it was for bravery.

Louis XVI. and his Family.

A more affecting instance of domestic calamity has seldom been exhibited than that of the royal family of France. When, in the French revolution, they were placed under confinement, it was not the mere restraint put upon the persons of Louis XVI. and his family, or the continued dread of becoming victims to revolutionary fury, that rendered their condition so wretched; but their imprisonment was aggravated by the daring insults of the lowest rabble, and the ears of the amiable Marie Antoinette, Madame Elizabeth, and the children, were continually assailed with the grossest ribaldry.

It is in times of suffering that the domestic affections are put to their strongest test, and gain their greatest triumphs; and Louis XVI., who for many years after his marriage treated his wife as a child, or a part of the state pageant, found, in his misfortunes, that the affections of his wife and his children were his only solace. Clery, the faithful attendant of this unfortunate family in all their reverses, gives a most affecting picture of their last interview, when the death of Louis XVI. had been decreed. 'At half-past eight,' says he, 'the door opened. The queen came first, leading her son by the hand; Madame Royale and Madame Elizabeth followed. They all threw themselves into the arms of the king.'

A melancholy silence prevailed for some minutes, and it was only broken by sighs and sobs. The queen made an inclination towards his majesty's chamber. "No," said the king, "let us go into this room; I can see you only there." They went in, and I shut the glass door. The king sat down; the queen was on his left hand, Madame Royale nearly opposite, and the young prince stood between his legs; all were leaning on the king, and often pressed him in their embraces. This scene of sorrow lasted an hour and three-quarters, during which it was impossible to hear anything. It could, however, be seen, that after every sentence uttered by the king, the agitation of the queen and princesses increased, lasted some minutes, and then the king began to speak again. It was plain, from their gestures, that they received from himself the first intelligence of his condemnation.

'At a quarter past ten, the king rose first; they all followed. I opened the door. The queen held the king by his right arm; their majesties gave each a hand to the dauphin. Madame Royale, on the king's left, had her arms around his body; and behind her Madame Elizabeth, on the same side, had taken his arm. They advanced some steps towards the entry door, breaking out into the most agonizing lamentations. "I assure you," said the king, "that I will see you again to-morrow morning at eight o'clock." "You promise?" said they, all together. "Yes, I promise." "Why not at seven o'clock?" said the queen. "Well, yes; at seven," replied the king; "farewell!" He pronounced "farewell" in so impressive a manner that their sobs were renewed, and Madame Royale fainted at the feet of the king, round whom she had clung. I raised her, and assisted Madame Elizabeth to support her. The king, willing to put an end to this agonizing scene, once more embraced them all most tenderly, and had the resolution to tear himself from their arms. "Farewell! farewell!" said he, and went into his chamber.

'The queen, princesses, and dauphin, returned to their own apartments. I attempted to continue supporting Madame Royale; but the municipal officers stopped me before I had gone up two steps, and compelled me to go in. Though both the doors were shut, the screams and lamentations of the queen and princesses were heard for some time on the stairs. The king returned to his confessor in the turret closet.

'The next morning at seven o'clock,' continues M. Clery, 'the king coming out of his closet, called to me, and taking me within the recess of the window, said, "You will give this seal to my son; this ring to the queen, and assure her that it is with pain I part with it; this little packet contains the luir of all my family, you will give her that too. Tell the queen, my dear children, and my sister, that although I promised to see them this morning, I have resolved to spare them the pangs of so cruel a separation; tell them how much it cost me to go without receiving their embraces once more!" He wiped away some

tears, then added, in the most sorrowful accent, "I charge you to bear them my last farewell!"'

Melancholy Mistakes.

A few years ago, a fire took place in White-chapel, in some houses principally occupied by lodgers. So rapid were the flames that it was with the utmost difficulty that the wretched inhabitants could be rescued. A poor woman, with a large family, who had just escaped, was kneeling, with her children around her, to return God thanks for her preservation, when she found that her youngest child, an infant, was still missing. With a courage and desperation which maternal affection, heightened by despair, alone could have prompted, she flew, half naked as she was, up the blazing staircase, into the room, snatched the babe from the cradle, and bore it in triumph to her family group; a triumph, alas! short-lived, for the child was not her own. Misled by the smoke which filled the building, she had entered a wrong apartment, and rescued the child of one of her neighbours instead of her own. She hastened back, but by this time the whole building had fallen in, when she sunk senseless on the ground, and died in a few hours.

A somewhat similar, though not so distressing an event, occurred during the rejoicings at Paris, on the marriage festivities of the Dauphin, afterwards the unfortunate Louis XVI. In the Place Louis XV. there were very brilliant fireworks prepared; but by some accident the scaffolding prepared for them took fire; the rush of the crowd, and the crash of coaches, was such, that several persons were trampled to death under the horses' feet, and others were killed by the pressure.

One man, of the name of Pierre Dubois, who went to see the promised amusements, took with him a young woman, to whom he was next day to have been married. When the disaster of the scaffolds caused every person to seek his safety in immediate escape, Pierre and his mistress hastened from the fatal scene, and being strong and athletic, he was enabled for some time to protect her from the most immediate pressure of the crowd; but the danger and the terror increased, and she exclaimed, 'Oh! I am falling, I can go no farther.' 'Courage!' said the lover, 'I can still save thee, if thou wilt but get upon my shoulder.' He soon found that his shoulders had received their burden, and animated by new courage, he forced his way through the crowd, and reaching a place of safety, he set down his precious burden, expecting, in the smile that would greet him, an ample recompense for all his toil. Half intoxicated with joy at his having rescued his beloved, he turned round to receive her embrace, when, alas! he found it was a different person, who had taken advantage of his recommendation, and that his own Henrietta had been left to perish in the crowd.

Female Influence.

A remarkable instance of the influence of the female sex over minds little likely to be swayed by it, occurred in the case of John Banier, an *élève* of the great Gustavus Adolphus, and one of the greatest generals Europe ever produced. This brave man owed much of his glory to his first wife, and tarnished it by his second. While the wife whom he brought from Sweden lived, he was successful in every undertaking; she accompanied him in every campaign, and was always found to console and cheer him in every danger and difficulty, and to urge him onward wherever glory was to be gained. After her death, Banier became smitten with a lovely young German princess, whom he married; this circumstance proved the grave of all his military fame, for she soon rendered him as effeminate as herself; and six weeks after his marriage he died of grief at having tarnished his fame as a general, by a gross neglect of his military duties.

Family Sympathy.

In the reign of James the First, and when the Earl of Huntingdon was Lieutenant of the county of Leicester, a labourer's son was pressed to serve in the army destined to go into Bohemia with Count Mansfield. The poor father waited on the earl, requesting that his son might be discharged, as being the only staff of his age, who, by his own industry maintained both his parents. The earl enquired his name, which the old man was long before he would confess, fearing that it might be deemed presumptuous to avow the same name as the nobleman he addressed; at length he said his name was Hastings. 'Cousin Hastings,' said the earl, 'we cannot all be top branches of the tree, though we all spring from the same root. Your son, my kinsman, shall not be pressed.'

Revolutionary Victims.

During the French Revolution, when the crowded prisons were only thinned by the axe of the guillotine, and when every person in confinement expected to be the next victim, an officer proceeded to one of the prisons, to summon a person in confinement of the name of Loiselles. The father and son of this name were both in the same prison, and no sooner was the name called out, than the father stepped forward. He was told that it was his son that was called. He replied, 'I am far advanced in years, and cannot expect to live long; my son is young, and may survive these troubles; let me, therefore, make the only sacrifice in my power, in devoting myself for his sake;' the officer yielded to his request; the father pressed his son to his bosom, and gave him a parting blessing; then accompanied the officer to the tribunal, from which,

to the guillotine, was but one step, and suffered with fortitude, and even cheerfulness.

A Lieutenant Angrand d'Alleray, distinguished for his integrity and humanity, was arrested, and conducted before the revolutionary tribunal, when they produced a letter which he had written to his sons, who had emigrated, in which he announced, that he had transmitted them some pecuniary assistance. 'Do you not know that there is a law against sending money to emigrants?' said the judge, sternly. 'I know one law,' replied d'Alleray, 'more sacred and more ancient than yours; it is the law of nature, which ordains that a father shall support his children.' This answer was deemed sufficient guilt, and this virtuous old man was led at once to the scaffold.

M. Sallier, counsellor of the Parliament of Paris, and one of the individuals who signed a protest against the excesses of the French revolution, was obliged to make his escape so suddenly, in order to avoid certain death, that he had no opportunity of informing any of his friends of the circumstance. His father, ignorant that he was out of the toils of his pursuers, was arrested. The officers showed him the signature to the protest. Anxious to save his son, he said that it was his own, and that he had nothing to reproach himself with in thus following the dictates of his conscience. This was sufficient, and the aged M. Sallier fell the victim of paternal love.

Eagle and Child.

A servant maid at Munich, being in a garden with a child nine months old, set it down on the ground, when suddenly an eagle darted from the air, to seize upon it as a prey. The servant, who was fortunately close by, with the greatest courage, and presence of mind, threw a shawl at the bird, which covering his eyes, not only prevented him from seizing the infant, but even from escaping. She boldly caught hold of the robber, and in spite of his struggles, held him fast till some persons came to her assistance. His majesty amply rewarded the heroine, who received some wounds in the contest, and sent the prisoner to the menagerie at Nymphenburg.

Heroism and Humanity.

In the year 1813, during a dreadful snow storm, a poor sailor and his wife were discovered near Burbage Brook, exhausted with fatigue, and unable to proceed on their journey; the poor man had sunk under his exertions to support his wife, and was nearly dead. The young man who found them, took the sailor upon his back, and carried him to the only house he could find, which was nearly a mile off; he then returned, and in the like manner bore the woman, who was unable to walk, to the same dwelling. He had no sooner performed this act of humanity,

than he found himself again called on for assistance. The coach from Manchester was overturned, and nearly buried in the snow; a mother, with her child, about two years old, were amongst the passengers, the whole of whom were females; the child he bore to Hathersage; the mother attempted to follow, but was soon unable to proceed. On his return, he found her in a drift of snow, from which all her efforts to extricate herself were unavailing. He restored her to her child, and in the same way he released the two remaining ladies from their perilous situation. They offered him money as a compensation for his services, which he did not decline accepting; but he immediately transferred it to the poor sailor and his wife, to solace and comfort them on their journey.

Sir Robert Taylor.

When the celebrated architect Sir Robert Taylor was a young man, and studying at Rome, he received intelligence of his father having been taken dangerously ill. He immediately resolved to hurry home, but as there was war on the continent, and passports were not to be procured, he thought of circumventing the risk he could not hope to overcome. Assuming the apparel of a Franciscan friar, he joined another of the order, and with him passed unmolested through the hostile camps, and reached his native country. The disguise which had been of such importance to him on this occasion, Sir Robert carefully preserved, and, as a memorial of his filial piety, it still remains among the most treasured relics of his family. A dutiful and affectionate son, he proved a kind and indulgent father. He was not insensible to the value of money, but it did not weigh with him at all when opposed to the claims of affection. When his son, the present Michael Angelo Taylor, Esq., came out in life, he transferred to him at once £20,000, and when he was brought into Parliament, increased this provision to £2000 a year.

The Family Compact.

Two brothers of the name of Arragon, who jointly occupied an extensive farm near Marseilles, were distinguished for the warmth and sincerity of their friendship. After living many years together in uninterrupted tranquillity, they married, and each brought his wife to the farm, nor did this increase of family for some time disturb their harmony.

In the course of eight or nine years the wife of the eldest brother had ten children, while the wife of the youngest had not one. These circumstances created some uneasiness, particularly as the brothers and their families had all lived out of the produce of the farm, without each having a separate purse, and without dividing the profits. At length the wives quarrelled, and determined on a division of the property. The husbands were

compelled to submit, and accordingly repaired to their landlord, M. de Pastoret, a magistrate of Marseilles, who, willing to retain them as tenants, suggested that one brother should divide the farm into equal lots, and that the other should have the choice. The elder brother made the division, in the presence of the landlord, the two wives, and his ten children. The scene was interesting; a tear stole down their cheeks, and a mournful but expressive silence bore testimony to the sorrow which wrung the heart of the father. The younger brother, with a trembling hand, made his choice, saying, 'I take this part, but, brother, it is not complete.' 'It is complete, my friend,' said the elder brother, 'and you know it is.' 'I know and I see,' replied the other, 'that it is not equal, and that it wants the part which I prize most. What! do you think that I, who have no children, will agree to make a division of your property without participating in your family? I choose five of these children—five of the youngest, because the eldest may be useful to you. I demand this, and my wife seconds me.' The tone in which this was delivered, and the impression which it made on the countenances of the assembly, suddenly changed the whole into the most delicious scene. The nephews, the nieces, the brothers, and the wives all flew into one another's arms, and that instant restored complete union and felicity to this once more united and now inseparable family.

Mahomedan Sirdar.

At the siege of Tellicherry, Sirdar Cawn, the Mahomedan general, after a spirited resistance, threw himself with many of his bravest and most faithful followers into a fortified house formed in the cavity of a rock at Corichee, the mansion of his women, and the repository of his treasures. He determined not to survive the disgrace of a defeat, but to defend himself to the last extremity. This stronghold was at length set on fire, and the sirdar and his followers were compelled to surrender, or perish in the flames. At the first breaking out of the conflagration many of the sirdar's family, fearful of a worse fate, began to drop down from the walls, amidst the fire of the sepoys. Among these were seven of the finest women of the East, who composed the sirdar's seraglio. Captain Christie, who happened to pass by the spot at the moment they were preparing to throw themselves from the battlements, stopped the firing at the hazard of his life, ran up to their assistance, and received them one after another in his arms. Lieutenant Hawkes, of the artillery, came up to lend his assistance in this generous act of gallantry, and the fair captives were conducted by the two officers in safety to their commanding officer. The general, like another Scipio, ordered them to be given up to their lord, who had testified the most agonizing anxiety concerning their fate. When they came into his presence he

looked sternly in their faces, and manifested symptoms of trouble, anguish, and despair. But after he had conversed with them for some time, his face became suffused with tears of joy, and he expressed the strongest emotions of gratitude for the delicate manner in which the women had been treated by the British officers. 'You,' said he, 'enjoy the fortune of this day, and you deserve it. Go therefore to the room (describing one in the fortified house) and you will find for your reward two lacs of rupees.' Above £20,000 were accordingly divided among the army.

The sirdar, when he was taken prisoner, had expected immediate death; he inquired why it was delayed, and regarded the humanity of the English in sparing him with astonishment. 'If you mean,' said he to the officers into whose hands he fell, 'to save my life, restore my wives and my children.' The joy that filled his mind on receiving this pledge of the merciful intentions of the English was not lasting. He died soon after of grief and agony of mind, desiring, as a last favour from Major Abington, that his family might be sent to Seringapatam. His request was readily granted and punctually performed.

Empress Catharine.

An envoy extraordinary from Poland, to the Court of Russia, returning to Dresden, stopped at an inn in Courland, where he was witness to a quarrel between the ostler and some of the stable-keepers, who were inebriated. One of them swore much, and threatened, in a bold tone of voice, to make his antagonists repent of their insolence. The minister, interested by the superior air with which the man spoke, asked his name and past condition. He was told that he was an unfortunate Polander, named Charles Scorowski, whose father, supposed to have been a gentleman of Lithuania, died early, and had left his son in a miserable situation, with a daughter, who had been for some time lost. The minister thought he perceived in Scorowski, a resemblance to the noble features of the Empress Catharine; and having, as all the world have done, heard of the obscurity which hung over the origin of the empress, he took a fancy into his head, that there might be some relationship between them. He accordingly wrote an account of the adventure to a friend at the Russian Court, through whom, by some means or other, it found its way to the Czar Peter. The empress had always pretended to the czar to be perfectly ignorant of her family; she affected to remember only that she had a brother, but to be ignorant of what had become of him. Peter, imagining that he had now got a clue to the solution of the mystery, sent an order to Prince Ressenin, Governor of Riga, to discover Charles Scorowski; to entice him to Riga, under some fair pretence; to seize him, without offering the smallest insult; and to send him under a strong guard to the chamber of police, which he had ordered to revise a decree passed against this imaginary prisoner.

The order was punctually executed; Charles was brought, and the chamber pretended to proceed against him, with all the forms of law, as against a quarrelor and promoter of strife. He was afterwards forwarded to the capital, with the supposed informations, which substantiated the offence of which he had been accused.

Scorowski, under great apprehension for his fate, though he believed himself to be perfectly innocent, was presented to the judge, who lengthened out the proofs, in order that he might more easily examine the prisoner, whom he had orders to sound thoroughly. The better to succeed in his design, he kept spies around him, to catch any marked word that might escape; and private enquiries were made in Courland, which proved most clearly that Scorowski was really the brother of the empress.

The czar, convinced of the reality of the relationship, caused it to be intimated to Scorowski, that as the judge was not disposed to treat him with much indulgence, he could do nothing better than present a petition to his sovereign; and that the means of doing this would be rendered easy, as not only access to the throne would be procured for him, but also protectors sufficiently powerful to ensure the success of his requests. Peter, who had artfully contrived everything for a scene amusing to himself, but humiliating to the pride and haughtiness of Catharine, sent word that on a certain day he would go privately to dine with Chapelow, the steward of his household, and that after dinner he would give an audience to Scorowski.

When the appointed time arrived, the rustic did not appear intimidated by the majesty of the monarch, but boldly presented his petition. The czar asked him a number of questions; the answers to which, all served to confirm him in the belief that it was the brother of his empress who stood before him. Nevertheless, to remove all doubt on the subject, Peter dismissed him abruptly, desiring that he would return the next day, at the same hour; accompanying his order with a hint, that, in all probability, he would have no cause to be displeased with his decision.

The czar, supping with the empress that same evening, said to her, 'I dined to-day with Chapelow, and made a most excellent repast; I must take you thither some day.' 'Why not to-morrow?' she replied. 'Well, then,' rejoined the czar, 'be it so; but we must do as I did to-day, surprise him when he is about to sit down to dinner, and dispense with all attendants.'

Next day, Peter and Catharine, being accordingly at dinner with Chapelow, the petitioner was introduced, who approached with more timidity than he had shown before. The czar affected to have forgot the subject of Scorowski's petition, and repeated all the questions of the day preceding. He received, however, precisely the same answers. Catharine, reclining on a sofa, listened with the greatest attention; every word from Scorowski vibrated on her ear;

and the czar still more roused her by saying, in a tone which indicated that he was interested in the conversation, 'Catharine, attend to that, do not you comprehend?' Catharine, on this, changed colour, her voice faltered, she could scarcely reply. 'But,' added the czar, with emotion, 'if you do not comprehend, I do; in a word, this man is your brother. Come,' said he to Scorowski, 'kiss the border of her robe, and her hand, in quality of empress; after which, embrace her as thy sister.' At these words, Catharine grew quite pale; the power of speech forsook her, and she was for some time in a state of insensibility. When she recovered, Peter affectionately said, 'What great harm then is there in this adventure? I have found a brother-in-law; if he is a man of merit, and has any abilities, we shall make something of him. Console yourself, then, I beg of you; for I see nothing in all this that ought to give you a moment's uneasiness. We are now informed of an affair which has cost us many enquiries. Let us depart.'

Catharine, rising up, requested to embrace her brother, and begged the czar to continue his kindness, both to him and his sister. The emperor assigned Scorowski a house, and a pension; but he was requested to keep himself quiet, and to enjoy his good fortune in secret.

Considerate Friendship.

Then the attempt was made upon the life of his late majesty, by Margaret Nicholson, as he was going to St. James's to hold a levee, a council was ordered to be held as soon as the levee was over. The Marquess del Campo, the Spanish ambassador, being apprized of that circumstance, and knowing that the council would detain the king in town three or four hours beyond the usual time, took post horses, and set off for Windsor. Alighting at the castle, he called upon a lady there with whom he was acquainted. The queen, finding that the king did not return at the usual time, and understanding that the marquess was in the palace, sent to ask him if he had been to the levee. He replied that he had, and that he had left his majesty in perfect health, going to council. When the king arrived, he, of course, told her majesty the extraordinary occurrence of the morning. The queen expressed great surprise that the Marquess del Campo, who had been nearly three hours in the palace, had not mentioned the subject to her; he was then sent for, when he told their majesties, that finding upon his arrival at the castle, that no rumour of the attempt upon the life of his majesty had reached the queen, he did not think it expedient to apprise her of it, till his majesty's arrival gave full assurance of his safety; but, at the same time, fearing that some incorrect and alarming reports might be brought down, he deemed it right to remain in the palace, in order, in that case, to be able to remove all apprehensions from her majesty's mind, by acquainting her with

the real facts. The king took the ambassador graciously by the hand, and assured him, that he scarcely knew a man in the world to whom he was so much obliged.

Family Man's Answer to a Challenge

Two friends happening to quarrel at a tavern, one of them, a man of hasty disposition, insisted on the other's fighting him next morning. The challenge was accepted, on condition that they should breakfast together previous to their going to the field, at the house of the person challenged. When the challenger arrived next morning, according to appointment, he found every preparation made for breakfast, and his friend, his wife and children, all ready to receive him. Their repast being over, and the family withdrawn, without the slightest hint of their fatal purpose having transpired, the challenger asked the other if he was ready to attend? 'No, sir,' replied he, 'not until we are upon a par; that amiable woman, and those six innocent children, who just now breakfasted with us, depend solely upon my life for their subsistence; and until you can stake something equal, in my estimation, to the welfare of seven persons, dearer to me than my right hand, or my right eye, I cannot think we are equally matched.' 'We are not indeed!' replied the other, giving him his hand; and they became, from this time, firmer friends than before.

Family Necessity.

An aged couple in New York, were, in the severe winter of 1783, reduced to their last stick of wood. Their only daughter, by whose industry alone they had long been supported, had no means of procuring her parents fuel or food. In this distressing emergency, she thought of the expedient of going to a dentist, with the resolution of disposing of her fore-teeth, knowing that he had advertised to give three guineas for every sound fore-tooth, provided only that he was allowed to extract it himself. On her arrival, she made known the circumstances which induced her to make the sacrifice; which so affected the dentist, that he could not forbear shedding tears. He made her a present of ten guineas; with which, with heart full of joy, she hastened home to relieve her parents.

Not Taking a Wife to the Snow.

The Emperor Joseph II. travelling towards Ostend for the purpose of presiding at the ceremony of declaring it a free port, was attracted by the appearance of a poor woman at the door of a cottage, who seemed to discover in her appearance much dejection and disappointment. The emperor who, as usual, was in advance of his train, dismounted to

hear the poor woman's story. She, unconscious of the dignity of the person she addressed, stated that she had been earnestly entreating her husband for permission to accompany him to Ostend, to which place he had just gone, in order to see the emperor; but that all her supplications had been unavailing. She urged the peculiar unkindness of this refusal in the strongest terms, observing that her husband was but an alien, and could not be supposed to love her royal master with the same spirit of ardent loyalty which glowed in her bosom, as she was descended from a family which had, through successive generations, resided five hundred years in the same neighbourhood, and had always been particularly distinguished for its attachment to their sovereign. She concluded with asserting how largely she inherited the family loyalty, and that she would cheerfully undergo the severest hardships, and think herself amply requited if she could but obtain a sight of her sovereign.

The emperor was so much struck with the zeal of the poor cottager that he immediately took a snuff-box from his pocket, most splendidly decorated with diamonds, which surrounded a picture of himself, and gave it to her, saying, that if the brutality of her husband had prevented her from seeing the original, her loyalty and feeling deserved at least to be rewarded by a portrait of the sovereign she so much revered. The likeness of the picture was so exact that the woman immediately perceived to whom she had been so freely communicating her sentiments, and fell on her knees with every token of love and veneration. The emperor only remained to inquire the name of her husband, and where he was most likely to be found in Ostend; this done, he departed. A messenger was instantly sent forward with the directions for finding the man and committing him to prison.

The poor fellow inquired the cause of his arrest, but could obtain no answer; he was, however, most sumptuously entertained for three days in prison, and then set at liberty, just in time to learn that the emperor had left Ostend, and that the only chance he had of obtaining a sight of His Imperial Majesty was by following him to Vienna. When he returned home, the story of the snuff-box revealed the mystery of his imprisonment, and consoled him for the loss of that sight, which his wife had so advantageously enjoyed.

The Nuptial Funeral.

The only living representative of an illustrious family, the young Count of Dachau, was about to be allied to the Countess of Walfarhausen, a near relation, with a large dowry. The most magnificent preparations were made to celebrate the nuptials at the festival of Christmas. All the noble chevaliers and ladies of the adjacent country were invited to the ceremony. To the esquires and pages were given new liveries, on

which were embroidered the arms of the two families.

The preparations being completed, the Count of Dachau, in his nuptial dress, and accompanied by a train of attendants, quitted his ancient castle on the mountain, and descended into the valley to meet his bride; but the slow progress of his train, ill suiting his youthful ardour and impatience, the young count set spurs to his noble courser, and was soon so far advanced into the wood, that it was not possible for his attendants to hear his voice. He had not proceeded far, when he was suddenly attacked by a band of robbers; and after a brave but useless resistance, was wounded and disarmed. In vain did he offer everything valuable that he possessed, if they would spare his life. Deaf to all his entreaties, the cruel robbers added murder to their crime, and stripped him of his rich dress and costly jewels. An emerald ring, the first pledge which he had received from his mistress, when she promised to become his bride, not being easily taken from his finger, the barbarians cut off his hand, then covering the body with a little earth, carried away the horse of the ill-fated count.

In the meantime, the intended bride, accompanied by her two brothers, and followed by a splendid cavalcade, arrived, by another route, at the ancient castle of the Count of Dachau, where a numerous company were assembled. Mutual congratulations passed on the auspicious occasion of their meeting. The mother of the Count of Dachau, the only remaining member of his family, alone was melancholy and uneasy at not seeing her son, whom she every minute expected with impatience. She sent out the esquires and pages to seek him; and while they were gone, the supper was served up in the great hall. The chevaliers and ladies took their seats; but instead of gaiety and cheerfulness, a melancholy silence bespoke the sad presentiments that pervaded every bosom.

The solemn silence was at length disturbed by the sound of a horn: the drawbridge was lowered, and the esquires and pages entered precipitately, as if pursued by the phantoms of the night. A plaintive cry attracted their attention at the door, when a dog, who had been a great favourite with the young count, ran up to the mother of his master, and dropped something bloody at her feet. Alas! it was the hand of the count, which the assassins had cut off, and dropped in their flight. The mother—the bride perceived the emerald ring on one of the fingers, and sunk lifeless on the floor.

At this horrible sight, all the gentlemen took to arms, and followed by the domestics, entered the wood, and traversed it on every side. The faithful dog ran before them, tracing the footsteps of his murdered master; after an hour spent in wandering, the animal stopped at a heap of earth, which he began to scratch up. The gentlemen and attendants being attracted to the spot, cleared the earth away with their swords, when they discovered the naked and mangled body of the Count of

Dachau. The chevaliers took off their mantles, and wrapped up the body; they placed it on one of their horses: and then taking the plumes from their hats, and the esquires and pages tearing from their clothes the ribands and other nuptial ornaments of the day, they sorrowfully resumed their road to the castle. Not a voice was heard; not a sound to interrupt the silence of the melancholy procession.

The company that had seen the nuptial train of the late happy bride, now beheld from the lofty towers of the castle the funeral cavalcade approach. The priests descended to the foot of the mountain, to receive with due solemnity the body of their lord, who was entered in the vaults of the church in which his ancestors reposed; and with him became extinct the ancient family of Dachau.

The childless mother, and the widowed bride, wrapped in mourning, and prostrate at the foot of the altar, made a solemn vow to renounce the world for ever, and to devote their whole estate to the founding of a monastery of the order of St. Benedict.

In course of time, the whole of the assassins were taken and executed; and the Count Palatine of Bavaria, to whom the fief reverted, erected a chapel on the spot where the horrible murder was committed.

Love's Exertions.

M. Premierslane, a young Swiss of good family and fortune, was sent by his father to finish his education by a year's residence in Paris. Here he fell in love with a young lady, the daughter of a great planter in the Mauritius. He asked his father's consent to marry her, stating that her fortune would be considerable; but the old Swiss, proud of his ancient family, considered such an union as beneath him and refused his consent. The son, however, married, and set off with his bride to the Mauritius; when the ship arrived there, he found his wife's father dead, a son in possession of the plantation, and his wife utterly destitute of the slightest provision. In this dreadful dilemma, he had nothing to do but either to settle in the island, or immediately to return to France, and brook the anger of a father, whose rage would be redoubled on finding that he had not only disobeyed him, but had obtained no fortune to excuse it. He determined therefore, to settle on this island: he got a patent of a piece of waste land from the governor, and obtaining a little assistance from persons who had become acquainted with his case, established a small plantation. By great care, industry, and attention, it flourished, and M. le Premierslane lived so happily with his wife, that he envied not those who were richer. In a few years he visited France, and found that his father had totally disinherited him. Disgusted with the news, and wishing for nothing but to terminate his days with his dear wife, and her young family, he re-embarked immediately, and arrived safe at the Mauritius, where his

wrongs gave a spur to his zeal, and in a few years he became the richest planter in the island.

Industry Rewarded.

In the year 1805, the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, awarded their silver medal, and fifteen guineas, as a reward of virtuous and distinguished industry in humble life, to a poor, but deserving, man, who had exerted his humble talents in improving some acres of barren land, and brought up a large family on the most scanty earnings, without the slightest aid from the parish. Lieutenant Humphries, of the royal navy, who laid the poor man's case before the society, gives the following worthy example of honest industry, as exemplified by this worthy peasant.

'I yesterday took a walk of about two miles from this station, to satisfy myself respecting a remarkable instance of persevering and indefatigable industry, which I found as follows:—Twelve acres of barren downs had been taken from the common, seven or eight of which were in a high state of cultivation, and the remainder in a very forward state of improvement. This space was divided into eight fields, separated by seventeen stone fences, put together in a masterly manner. The fields are intersected with various drains, which empty themselves into the ditches that have been obliged to be dug round the margin of each field, both for this purpose, and in order to give greater height to the fences. On each side of every bank, ditches are dug, and in the gateways, bridges are made, able to support a loaded cart, that the water may run freely off. The land produced, in 1803, ten Cornish bushels of barley, nine trusses of hay, two hogsheads of oats, and ten bushels of wheat, besides pasture for cattle. This has been the labour of eighteen years, by one indefatigable man, who began it in the fiftieth year of his age. I have to add, that his dwelling-house, and out-buildings, including the turf-walls of which they are composed, the laying of the rafters, and the thatching, are all executed by himself, though he was only bred to husbandry.

'This deserving character is William Pearce, near Helston, Cornwall, who, when he began his improvements, was possessed only of one mare, and the shilling per day which he earned by hard labour. He has brought up seven children, of whom the sons volunteered into the service of their country; two were killed in the last war, and two were still employed in the same service when this account was received.'

Vicissitudes.

Mr. John Shepperton, who was heir to a good estate in Leicestershire, which he held for many years, lost it by a vexatious lawsuit that was brought against him by a richer neighbour. Mr. Shepperton had a wife and ten children, who were thus at once plunged

from affluence to poverty, and that not by any extravagance or imprudence on his part, but by the decision of the law. Being a person much esteemed, great interest was exerted to procure him a situation under government, but without effect. At last, after suffering so much from poverty, that he became disgusted with life, a trifling pension of £50 per annum was granted to him by Queen Anne, out of her privy purse. With this little annuity Mr. Shepperton and the whole of his family retired into Switzerland, near the Alps, and hired a little mountain farm, which he managed, with the assistance of his sons; while the girls watched the sheep, milked the cows, and did all those menial offices for the family, for which they were too poor to pay.

After residing here for many years, in all the happiness that rural life and the domestic affections could impart to a family that had to bear the retrospect of former days, an English gentleman of fortune, who had known the family in the time of affluence, crossing the Alps, stopped at the humble cottage of Mr. Shepperton, recognised, to his great surprise, his old friend, and became so enamoured of the eldest daughter, that he married her. He offered to take the whole family to England, and fix them more eligibly; but they were too happy to return to the scene of their former reverses.

Anglo-Saxon Father.

One of the principal pleasures of Alfred the Great was that of visiting all classes of his subjects. In one of these excursions, accompanied by Ethelbert, he repaired to the castle of Albanac, a chief of great rank and power, who received his royal master with every mark of joy; he presented to the prince, his wife and three daughters, who were extremely beautiful; but Ethelwitha eclipsed her sisters by the dignity of her deportment, and the grace and elegance of her person. At supper, she had the honour of attending upon Alfred, who was smitten with the blaze of her charms, and lavish in praise of her beauty. The impression made on Alfred was too visible to escape the penetrating eye of Albanac, who communicated to his wife his inquietude at the circumstance. He was not deceived in his conjectures, for Alfred had confided the secret of his passion to Ethelbert, who was too much of a courtier not to praise his master's choice.

Early in the morning, Albanac knocked at the door of the king's apartment, and desired immediate admittance. Alfred recollecting that it was the voice of his host, ordered him to enter, when he was struck with the appearance of Albanac, holding a drawn sword in one hand; and in the other, his three daughters, in deep mourning and in the most poignant distress. 'What is this I see?' exclaimed the king. 'A father,' answered Albanac, 'whose honour is more dear to him than life itself. My motive for this proceeding is easily explained. You are my king, and I am your

subject, but not your slave. You are well acquainted with my illustrious ancestors, and it is now proper that you should know my sentiments. I may possibly be deceived—but I thought last night that you discovered a particular attention to my daughters. If you have conceived the idea of dishonouring my house, you see the sword that shall in an instant sacrifice these unhappy, but willing victims; but if a pure flame is kindled in your breast, my alliance will not be deemed unworthy of royalty; choose, therefore, and name her that is born to such distinguished honour.'

The king, struck with the noble but daring courage of Albanac, gave his hand to Ethelwitha, who was afterwards proclaimed queen.

British Sailors.

At the conclusion of the war in 1814, three hundred British sailors, who had been prisoners, were assembled on the coast of Brittany, to embark for England. Being severally billeted on the inhabitants for some days before they were embarked, one of them requested permission to see the superintendent, Monsieur Kearnie; which being granted, the British tar, in the fulness of a feeling heart, thus addressed him:—'And please your honour, I don't come to trouble you with any bother about ourselves: we are all as well treated as Christians can be; but there is one thing that makes my food sit heavy on my stomach, and that of my two messmates.' 'What is it, my brave fellow?' replied the superintendent, 'the persons on whom you are quartered don't grudge it you?' 'No, your honour, if they did, that would not vex us.' 'What then would you complain of?' 'Only, your honour, it is, that the poor folk cheerfully lay their scanty allowance before us for our mess; and we have just found out that they have hardly touched a mouthful themselves, or their six babes, for the last two days; and this we take to be a greater hardship than any we found in prison!' M. Kearnie told them that from this hardship they should all be relieved: he instantly ordered the billets to be withdrawn, and rewarded all parties for their humanity, so compassionately exercised, and interchanged.

Fortunate Supplicant.

In the inclement part of the winter of 1782, a poor girl stood curtsying at the kitchen window of an elderly gentleman, in the environs of the metropolis, who observing the distressed object, and the severe weather to which she was exposed, ordered her to be taken into the kitchen, to be well warmed and fed. When she was going away, the weather was so stormy, that the gentleman ordered a bed to be made up for her. Next morning, by the master's directions, the servants put her into decent clothing, and she was sent into the parlour, to thank and take leave of her kind

benefactor. The gentleman made some enquiries respecting her, and found that she was of a respectable family, with which, in early life, he had some acquaintance: and finding her willing to go to service, agreed to take her into his house.

Here, by industry, and good behaviour, in a few years she rose from the office of kitchen maid, to that of housekeeper, when the old gentleman was taken dangerously ill. Her gratitude then redoubled her attentions towards him, and he became so attached to her, that he would not suffer any other person to nurse him. Finding himself grow worse, he made his will; and with the exception of a few trifling legacies, left her the whole of his property, amounting to several thousand pounds, plate, furniture, &c. She afterwards married a gentleman of fortune.

The Forgiving Father.

Some years ago, a Kentish heiress eloped with a young marine, and accompanied by a confidential friend to London, the parties were married. The next day the happy pair were surprised at perceiving the carriage of the lady's father drive up to the house. The old gentleman soon entered their apartment, 'My children,' said he, 'I come not to upbraid you. I opposed your union from no selfish motives. My daughter's happiness was all that I had in view; and as I once thought (erroneously I hope) that I could no better promote it than by refusing my consent to your marriage; so I am now convinced that I could not more effectually destroy it than by continuing my resentment.' How many foul blots in the page of domestic life would have been avoided, if all parents had acted with the same kindness and prudence as this Kentish squire.

Napoleon's Niece.

Ferdinand VII. of Spain carried his obsequiousness to Napoleon so far as to ask one of the members of his family for a wife. The eldest daughter of Lucien Bonaparte was fixed upon, and the match was proposed to her when she was on a visit to the emperor's court, during the disgrace and exile of her father; but although she was alone, and subjected to the solicitations of the whole court, and at last assailed by the menaces of Napoleon himself, she had the firmness and courage to adhere to her resolution. A friend of hers asking her if she did not feel afraid of the consequences of irritating her uncle by a refusal, she replied, '*O, que non! on craint peu celui qu'on n'estime pas.*'

Earthquake at Messina.

During the dreadful earthquake in Sicily, in 1782, the Marchioness de Spadara, at Messina, fainted at the instant the earthquake happened, and was carried by her husband to

the fort; but while he was preparing a boat for their departure the lady recovered from her fit: when perceiving that her infant son was left behind, she ran away to her house, which was still standing, and proceeding to the room where the child lay, snatched it up from the cradle. When she attempted to return, she found that the staircase had fallen in. She then ran from one part of the house to another, till the whole building was destroyed, except a balcony, to which she flew, and with the infant in her arms, implored assistance from the multitude; but no one came to her relief, and the whole building fell, burying the tender mother and her infant in the ruins.

Bishops' Wives.

It is not a little remarkable, that although archbishops and bishops, in some cases, take precedence of British lay peers, yet their wives have only the plain title of 'Mrs.' This anomaly was keenly felt by the wives of the bishops in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who, feeling the great disproportion between their own rank and that of their husbands, prevailed on their spouses to petition the queen to place them on a more equal footing. The bishops well knew her majesty's temper, and fearing to express the wishes of their wives too freely, put their request in the form of an interrogation, the substance of which was, that 'seeing her majesty had been graciously pleased to make them lords, and grant them the permission of sitting in the great council of the nation, they wished to know what they should do with their wives?' To this request her majesty gave the following laconic answer: 'What did you do with your wives, my lords, before the Reformation? Why, put them behind the doors.'

Victim of Duelling.

M. de Walsh, a French officer in the king's regiment, only sixteen years of age, who was a relation of the Duc de la Rochefoucault, had but just married a most accomplished lady, about his own age, when he was called upon to join his regiment. He joined, but soon obtained leave of absence, when he returned to Paris. He had but just reached his hotel, and was cordially embracing his lady, when he received a letter that made him instantly change colour, and show such confusion as spoke fearful things to his affectionate wife. The officer, however, to relieve her anxiety, burnt the letter, and assured her that it contained nothing of importance; he entreated her not to be alarmed, and led her into the adjoining room, where dinner was waiting for them. Almost immediately after dinner, M. de Walsh told his lady that he had forgotten some papers of consequence at Fontainebleau, and that the weather being fine, he would go in his cabriolet, with only his footboy, to fetch them. He set out almost immediately, and

leaving the carriage with the servant at Villejuif, where he wrote four letters to his friends, including one to his wife, he entered the forest alone, where a few hours afterwards he was found dead ; killed, as is supposed, in a duel, though with whom for ever remained a secret.

The Double Elopement.

The gallant Admiral Rodney had two elopements in his family at one time. His second son had long courted Lady Catherine Nugent, and though he had the good fortune to succeed in the favourable opinion of the lady, yet he could make no impression on the mind of the eccentric and facetious Earl Nugent, her father. The young parties therefore determined on a trip to Scotland, where a Vulcan is always found ready to forge the chains of Hymen. While these lovers were in pursuit of the completion of their wishes, the second daughter of Lord Rodney was prevailed on to follow the example of her brother, and in a few days afterwards set out on the same journey, stimulated by the same motives, with Captain Chambers, of the Guards, son of Sir William Chambers, the architect. They had not proceeded far on their journey when they met Mr. Rodney and his lady, returning to town from Gretna Green. The rencontre much disconcerted both parties ; an explanation, however, soon took place. Mr. Rodney declared he would not interrupt their journey, and doubted not but that a reconciliation with his father would soon be effected. The news of the double elopement reached Lord Rodney at the same time ; and he was soon reconciled, observing that his own family was the only crew that he had been unable to govern, and expressing a hope that his daughter would never mutiny under her new commander.

Peter the Great.

The joy which Peter the Great felt at the birth of his first son, by the Empress Catharine, was only equalled by his affliction on the death of the child, at the age of two years. On the birth of the infant—whom Peter, in a letter to Field-Marshal Scheremeteff, called a recruit sent from God—he ordered the whole army to rejoice. When the child died, the czar burst into tears, and abandoned himself to a despair from which the most fearful consequences were apprehended, until they were averted by the care and unremitted attentions of Catharine, and the ingenuity and firmness of the patriotic senator Dolgorucki.

The czar had shut himself up for three days and three nights in his closet, without seeing any person, not even his beloved Catharine. He lay on his camp bed, took neither viuals nor drink, nor could he be diverted from his grief to attend to the most important affairs. The course of justice was suspended, the dispatches of ambassadors and generals were unanswered, and the most important operations

of war were at a stand ; the functions of the senate, admiralty, and the college of war, were all suspended ; and a solemn stillness, accompanied with terror and suspense, reigned at court.

No person, however, was so much to be pitied as the Empress Catharine, who, besides the loss of her son, seemed threatened with that of her husband, who gave her no answer, let her knock at his door, or call as loud as she could. She sent in the night to the senator Dolgorucki, of whose fidelity and favour with the czar she had already had so many proofs, entreating him to think of some means of drawing the czar from his retreat, and extricating the empire from the danger it was in. Dolgorucki gave her assurance that things should change the next day and the czar be restored to his people.

The next morning Dolgorucki sent letters to every senator, commanding his attendance at court, by order of the czarina, to assist in recovering the czar from his grief. The senate accordingly assembled at the palace, and marched to the door of the room in which the czar was lying. Dolgorucki knocked loudly at the door of the apartment without receiving any answer. At length he called to the czar that he must open the door, for that he was attended by the assembled senate to lay before his majesty matters of the utmost consequence to the interests of the empire. The czar now rose and approached the door, but still made no answer, on which Dolgorucki cried out, 'The business, sire, admits of no delay, and your majesty must open the door immediately, or we shall be obliged to break it open and force your majesty to exertion to save the throne and the empire.'

When the czar heard this he opened his door, came out, and looking the senators in the face, then turned away from them muttering. 'What is it that causes this disturbance of my rest?' 'It is, sire,' replied Dolgorucki, 'that through your wonderful absence from us, and through your long and useless lamentations over a child, whose life is fled and cannot be recalled, that the whole kingdom is falling into confusion ; all the affairs of the state stand still ; the most favourable operations of our arms, both by sea and land, are suspended ; trade and commerce languish ; and your so often depressed enemies resume spirits from your having relinquished the cares of the government ; so that unless you resume those cares the states of the empire must of necessity elect another monarch.'

This remonstrance brought the czar to his wonted presence of mind, and he promised the senate that he would rouse himself and meet them on the next day. He then went immediately to the czarina, and embracing her very kindly, said, 'Now, Catharine, it is enough, and we will no longer complain of what we ought never to have forgotten was the will of God.'

The emperor detained the whole of the senate to dinner, and joined so freely in the conversation as gradually to disperse that air of grief in which his face was shrouded. In

the afternoon he received company, and the next day presided in the senate and at the admiralty as usual.

General St. Amour.

General St. Amour, who distinguished himself in the imperial service, was the son of a poor Piedmontese peasant. On his obtaining a regiment, the officers, who prided themselves on their birth, so highly resented his appointment, that four of his captains successively challenged him, all of whom he fought and conquered. On his dispatching the last of the four, he said, there are now only eight left. The remaining eight, however, had the prudence to smother their unmanly resentment.

St. Amour, though ready to resent any affront that might be put upon him, never forgot his humble extraction. While the army was in Piedmont, he invited his principal officers to an entertainment, when his father happened to arrive just as they were sitting down to table. This being announced to the general, he immediately arose, and stated to his guests his father's arrival; he said he knew the respect he owed to them, but at the same time he hoped they would excuse him if he withdrew, and dined with his father in another room. The guests begged that the father might be introduced, assuring him that they should be happy to see one so nearly related to him; but he replied, 'Ah, no, gentlemen, my father would find himself so embarrassed in company so unsuited to his rank, that it would deprive us both of the only pleasure of the interview, the unrestrained intercourse of a parent and his son.' He then retired, and passed the evening with his father.

Archbishop Moore.

The father of Dr. Moore, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was a butcher at Gloucester. The doctor, when early in life, became private tutor in the family of the Duke of Marlborough, to whose influence and patronage, he was indebted for his clerical elevation. While tutor in this family, his father failed in business, and became much distressed; but no sooner was the generous son made acquainted with his father's situation, than he allowed him, out of his stipend as a tutor, an annual sum sufficient to support him decently and comfortably. This allowance he regularly enlarged on every new preferment he obtained; and when he was made a bishop, he increased it to £500 a year.

Mr. Watts, a plumber at Brackley, in Northamptonshire, who had a comfortable independence, kept an open table on market days, for the neighbouring gentlemen and clergy. Among his guests, was a Mr. Moore, then a poor curate, who ceasing to be so frequent in his visits as formerly, was asked the reason by Mr. Watts, to whom he candidly confessed, that as he owed him ten pounds, which he was unable to pay, he felt

some delicacy in intruding on his hospitable table. Mr. Watts begged that this circumstance would not prevent him, and offered him twenty pounds more.

In the course of their subsequent lives, Mr. Watts fell into decayed circumstances; and the poor curate became Archbishop of Canterbury. In this elevated rank, the primate of all England did not forget his generous host, but rendered his latter years comfortable, besides settling an annuity on Mrs. Watt, which was regularly paid by the archbishop's executors, long after his death.

Ann Yearsley's Family.

A gentleman of Bristol dining at Clifton, the lady of the house, in the course of conversation, mentioned that her milk-woman was frequently writing verses on the servants, and had lately written an acrostic on one of her daughters. The company expressing a desire to see the production, it was read, and struck the gentleman by its poetical imagery, and a peculiar turn of thought. He inquired the residence of the milk-woman, and while the party sat down to cards, he set out to visit her. He found her in a poor hut destitute of furniture, which had been sold to give bread to her family as long as it lasted. Her mother and four little children were sitting on the floor around her; and all resources being exhausted, this melancholy group were assembled to die together. When the gentleman opened the door, they were almost senseless with cold and hunger, having had neither food nor fire for two or three days. Overcome with a spectacle so truly affecting, the humane visitor went home, and sent a man with a horse loaded with every thing that could give comfort in their melancholy situation. To the family it was an essential relief, but the poor mother was too far exhausted; the weak state of her body and mind would not permit her to support her excess of joy at seeing so providential a deliverance of her family, and she expired without being able to partake of the bounty.

Family Pride of the Romans.

The modern Romans retain little of the character of their ancestors but their pride, which is still preserved with scrupulous dignity even among the lowest classes of society. A few years ago, a wealthy and respectable German paid his addresses to the daughter of a barber in Rome; but notwithstanding the superior rank and circumstances of the lover, he received a rude and positive refusal from the mother of the girl. An English gentleman, who lodged in the barber's house at the time, much surprised at this behaviour, asked the mother why she acted so imprudently? 'Your daughter,' said he, 'is wholly unprovided for: surely then you ought to rejoice in an opportunity of uniting her to a rich and worthy man.' 'Rejoice in uniting her to a foreigner—a barbarian!' exclaimed the woman. 'No:

and were my daughter capable of cherishing so disgraceful an idea, I should not scruple to plunge a dagger into her heart.'

Affection's Victim.

When the unfortunate Louis XVI. and his family were attacked by a furious mob in the palace of the Tuileries, on the memorable 10th of August, 1792, and while the infuriated populace were dragging away a dead body, a lady, with dishevelled hair and a countenance of wild distraction, forced through the crowd. She came to seek a murdered husband! The body was mangled and disfigured; but it resembled the adored object she sought. She seized the right hand and found her wedding ring, which she had given him to wear as a token of their mutual love. She instantly sunk on the beloved corpse, clung round it, and became senseless and motionless. Horror struck, the spectators stared, and resolved to tear her from the dreadful sight. They did indeed separate her from the body of her husband, but she had died in the embrace.

Chinese Regrets.

A Chinese of forty years of age, who had a very passionate mother, frequently received from her a sound beating, which he always bore with exemplary patience. A friend, who knew the life the poor fellow led, calling on him one day just after he had received a severe drubbing from his mother, found him dissolved in tears, and quite inconsolable. 'What,' said the friend, 'can be the cause of this immoderate grief?' 'Ah!' replied the poor fellow, 'my dear mother did not thrash me half so soundly to day as she used to do. Poor creature! her strength is fast declining; I am much afraid that I shall soon lose her.'

The Wife and Mother.

While Cæcinna Pætus, the husband of the celebrated Arria, was very dangerously ill, their son, who was sick at the same time, died. He was a youth of uncommon accomplishments, and fondly beloved by his parents. Arria, fearing that the news of his death might endanger the life of her husband, prepared and conducted his funeral in such a manner, that her husband remained entirely ignorant of the mournful event which occasioned that solemnity. Pætus often enquired with anxiety about his son, to whom his faithful and affectionate wife cheerfully replied, that he had slept well, and was easy; but if her tears, too long restrained, were bursting forth, she instantly retired to give vent to her grief. When again composed, she would return to Pætus with dry eyes, and a placid countenance, quitting, as it were, all the tender feelings of a mother, at the threshold of her sick husband's chamber.

Reasons for Marrying.

A country justice of the peace, when upwards of seventy years of age, married a girl about nineteen, and being well aware that he was likely to be rallied on the subject, he resolved to be prepared. Accordingly, when any of his intimate friends called upon him, after the first salutations were passed, he was sure to begin the conversation, by saying, he believed he could tell them news; they naturally enquired what news? 'Why,' says he, 'I have married my tailor's daughter.' If he was asked why he did so? the old gentleman replied, 'Why, the father *sued* me so well for forty years past, that I thought his daughter might *suit* me as well for forty years to come.'

Hyder Ally and his Mother.

Soon after Hyder Ally had been defeated at Trincomalee, his mother, for whom he always entertained the sincerest affection, and who, in quality of queen-mother, had the right of commanding in the seraglio and palace, having received information of the check her son had received, and supposing it to be greater than it really was, she set out from Hyder Nagar to visit her son and his army, notwithstanding the inconvenience of travelling an hundred and fifty leagues in the rainy season. She made long journeys, and arrived at the camp in a few days. When the Nabob, who had been apprized of the queen's departure, was informed of her approach, he left the camp, with his whole army in parade. The army met the head of the queen's retinue at a league distance from the camp, at which place they halted, and Hyder and his son advanced alone on horseback, till they had joined the palanquin of their mother, which was close, and covered with muslin. They both bowed as low as they could upon their horses, and placing themselves on the left and right of the palanquin, the lady continued her journey, guarded by her son and grandson, and followed by the whole retinue of Hyder. She passed through the centre of Hyder's army, who saluted her as if she had been the prince himself.

The retinue of Hyder's mother consisted of about two hundred ladies, mounted on horses and oxen; they were enveloped in large pieces of thick muslin, which prevented even the smallest part of their clothes being seen. They all went before the palanquin of the queen-mother, which was followed by eight garris, or small Indian carriages, covered with scarlet cloth, and drawn by large oxen. There were likewise ten elephants, and a number of camels and beasts of burden. Some European horsemen preceded the women, and marched on one side. All the retinue was surrounded by about six hundred lancers, having feathers and bells to their lances; and the horsemen who preceded and followed the retinue, were about four hundred in number.

When the queen-mother was conducted into

her tent, and Hyder inquired what could induce her to make so long a journey, especially at a time when the continual rains rendered the roads almost impassable? 'I was anxious, my son,' she replied, 'to see how you bear the ill fortune you have sustained.' The prince said, 'If heaven should put him to no greater trial, he should find no great difficulty in supporting it.' 'Very well, then,' said the mother, 'since that is the case, I give thanks to God, and shall immediately return, that I may be no impediment to your operations.'

Two days afterwards, the queen-mother, having wished her son every kind of prosperity, departed, accompanied by her son and grandson to the place where they had met her; when, after mutual embraces, they took their leave.

Affectionate Daughters.

In the sanguinary scenes which took place in Paris on the 2nd and 3rd of September, 1792, there was an almost general massacre of all the persons confined in the capital. Cazotte was in the prison of the Abbaye. When the assassins were approaching him, his daughter placed herself before him, and shielding him with her body, exclaimed, 'You shall not reach the heart of my father, until you have first pierced mine.' The weapons for once fell from the hands of the assassins bloodless; they felt some pity and admiration for the heroic and affectionate daughter, and conducted her and her father in triumph to their house. But their respite, alas! was short. Cazotte was arrested a second time, and conducted before the revolutionary tribunal; was condemned to death; and his daughter, who never for a moment quitted the tribunal, was consigned to prison, until her father was executed, lest she should again excite compassion in his favour.

During the reign of terror in France, M. de Sombreuil was calmly awaiting the stroke of death, and the assassins had raised their daggers to despatch him, when a young woman darted forward into the midst of them, crying out, 'Stop, barbarians; this is my father!' She then fell on her knees, kissed the bloody hand of the premeditated assassin of her parent, prayed, entreated, and offered herself a sacrifice for her father: at length she rose, and shielding him in her arms, thought she perceived that the rage of the assassins was subdued, and that her prayers had disarmed them. The monsters agreed to save her father's life if she would drink a glass of blood. At such a proposal, the heroine shrunk with horror; she drew back, and turned pale; but recollecting that it was the only means of saving a father's life, she submitted to the sacrifice, and preserved the life of her father: though it had nearly cost her own, for she was seized with severe convulsions, from which she was with difficulty recovered.

M. Dellegran was arrested at Lyons, but an order arriving to transfer him to the prison

of the Conciergerie in Paris, his daughter asked permission to accompany him in the voiture in which he was conducted. This favour being refused, Mademoiselle Dellegran followed the carriage from Lyons to Paris; and sometimes at the different posts where it rested, she was able to interchange a look, or a word of affection and consolation, with her much-loved parent. When they arrived in Paris, she was compelled to separate from him, and she trembled to think that the separation might be permanent. During three months she never ceased to solicit from every person she thought had the least power or influence, an interference in behalf of her father. Day after day she attended at the gate of the prison, in the hope that the iron-hearted gaoler might be softened, to admit her to an interview with her father, but in vain. At length, after innumerable solicitations, she had the good fortune to obtain an order for her father's liberation. Furnished with this order, she flew to the prison, and throwing herself into the arms of her father, announced to him the happy intelligence. Released from his chains, she conducted him back in triumph towards Lyons, but did not live to witness the joy of his arrival in the midst of his family. The mental and bodily fatigue she had undergone, which had been kept under while her father's life was in jeopardy, were now found to have made fatal inroads on her constitution; and notwithstanding the aid of medical skill, she died on their route to Lyons, leaving a father inconsolable for the loss of so virtuous and affectionate a daughter.

The Swiss Shepherds.

The shepherds' life in Sanenland, in the canton of Berne, holds a middle rank between that of cultivators, and wandering Tartars, or Arabs. Five or six times a year each family changes its habitation; and every week one meets the father of his household, with his wife and children, and preceding their herds with some wooden utensils, &c., travel like an ancient patriarch in search of a new residence.

In no country are to be seen so many moveable cots and houses. When there are buildings erected for the cows, every man in moderate circumstances prides himself on having a separate house, which, in order to guard against the fatal effects of an inundation, is so constructed that it can be taken to pieces. When their winter forage is finished, they betake themselves to the lowest part of the mountains, and having there consumed all their stock, proceed with their flocks towards the summits. Their march begins with the most pleasing solemnity. First goes the most beautiful cow of the herd, priding herself in a magnificent collar and belt; by her side walks the master of the family. Then follow his attendants, with the rest of the flocks. Shepherds and cattle are all bedecked with garlands of flowers; every part resounds with the

jingling of bells, lowing of cows, and the cheerful notes of the herdsmen. The smallest flocks follow, and the wife and children close the procession. Towards the end of August, they again descend to the lowest parts; and as winter approaches, return to their warm retreats in the vale, to wait the return of spring, and the same circle of pleasure.

While we cannot but admire this innocent and happy life of the shepherds of Sanenland, we must not forget that it favours no invention; for it is the wants which the passions and riches of mankind have created, that have ever been the mother of arts; and the extended societies of men that have favoured the discoveries and researches of genius.



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